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爆れつハンター 8

原作 あかほりさとる
作画 臣士れい

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月刊電撃コミック
ガオ!
毎月27日発売

爆れつハンター 8

SORCERER HUNTERS

ART BY RAY OMISHI

STORY BY SATORU AKAHORI

TOKYOPOP

Sorcerer Hunters™

8

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STORY BY SATORU AKAHORI

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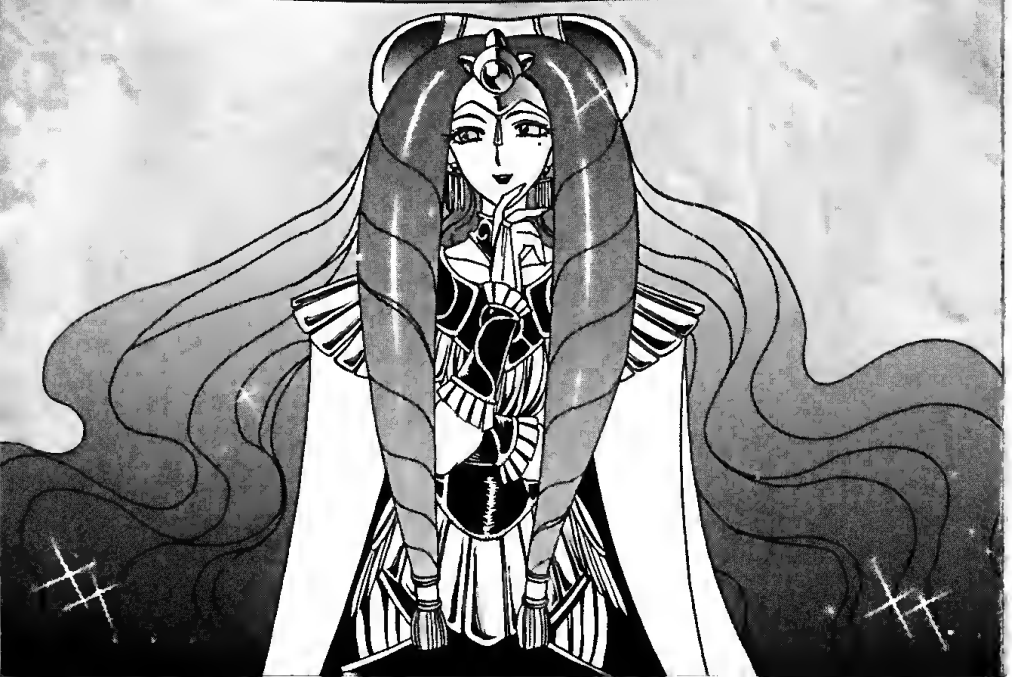
Sorcerer Hunters™

Life after Lord Sacher is far from easy, as the Hunters' next assignment pits them against a magic carpenter whose latest creation has a murderous appetite. Can the gang whip this abominable beast into submission—or will they suffer the sting of defeat?

OUR STORY SO FAR:

FAR, FAR AWAY IN THE LAND OF SPOOLNER, TERRIBLE, CRUEL SORCERERS ENSLAVE DEFENSELESS PARSONERS WITH THEIR EVIL ENCHANTMENTS, AND ONLY ONE MAN CAN END THE DARKNESS! WELL, ACTUALLY, THERE ARE THREE MEN AND TWO WOMEN. AND THOSE FIVE ARE KINDA HELPED BY A GODDESS, HER MAGICAL KNIGHTS, AND PAST GENERATIONS OF WARRIORS. BUT STILL, YOU GET THE POINT--THE ODDS ARE AGAINST JUSTICE IN THIS WICKED WIZARD WORLD, WHERE SPIRIT-STEALING SPELLCASTERS AND NEFARIOUS NECROMANCERS ARE OUT TO OPPRESS THE INNOCENT.

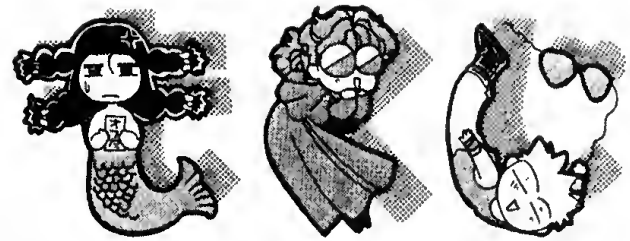
IN THE LAST VOLUME, OUR HEROES' LONG JOURNEY OF REVENGE CAME TO ITS CONCLUSION, AS THEY FINALLY FACED SACHER TORTE. WHILE GATEAU FOUGHT AGAINST HIS LITTLE SISTER ECLAIR (WHO WAS BRAINWASHED BY SACHER), THE OTHERS DESPERATELY TIRED TO DEFEAT TORTE AND HIS SEEMINGLY ENDLESS WELL OF POWER. ECLAIR MISTAKENLY KILLED GATEAU, WHILE CARROT AND THE OTHERS FINALLY MANAGED TO BRING SACHER TO HIS KNEES. HOWEVER, AS HE LAY DYING, SACHER GRANTED ECLAIR A FINAL WISH...AND BROUGHT GATEAU BACK TO LIFE. NOW, WITH THEIR MORTAL ENEMY DEAD, THE HUNTERS FIND THEMSELVES WONDERING WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR THEM...



42 AFTER THE STORM

But this is Sorcerer Hunters! Don't get us wrong!

Who's that?



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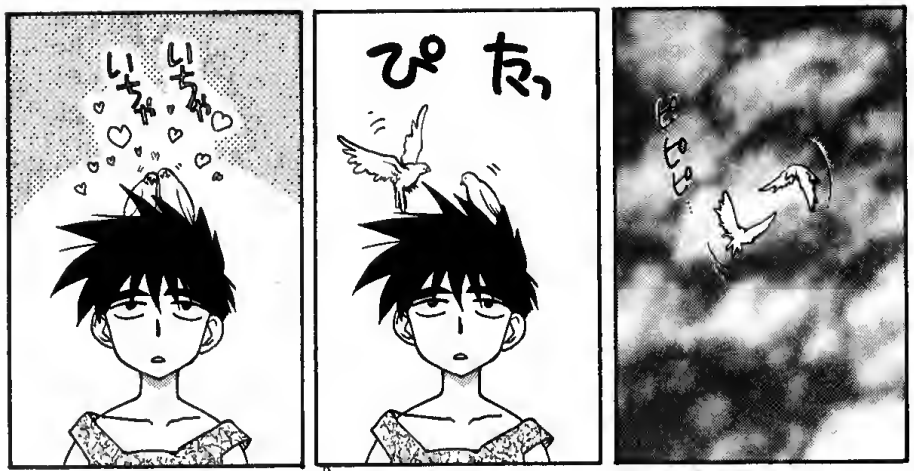
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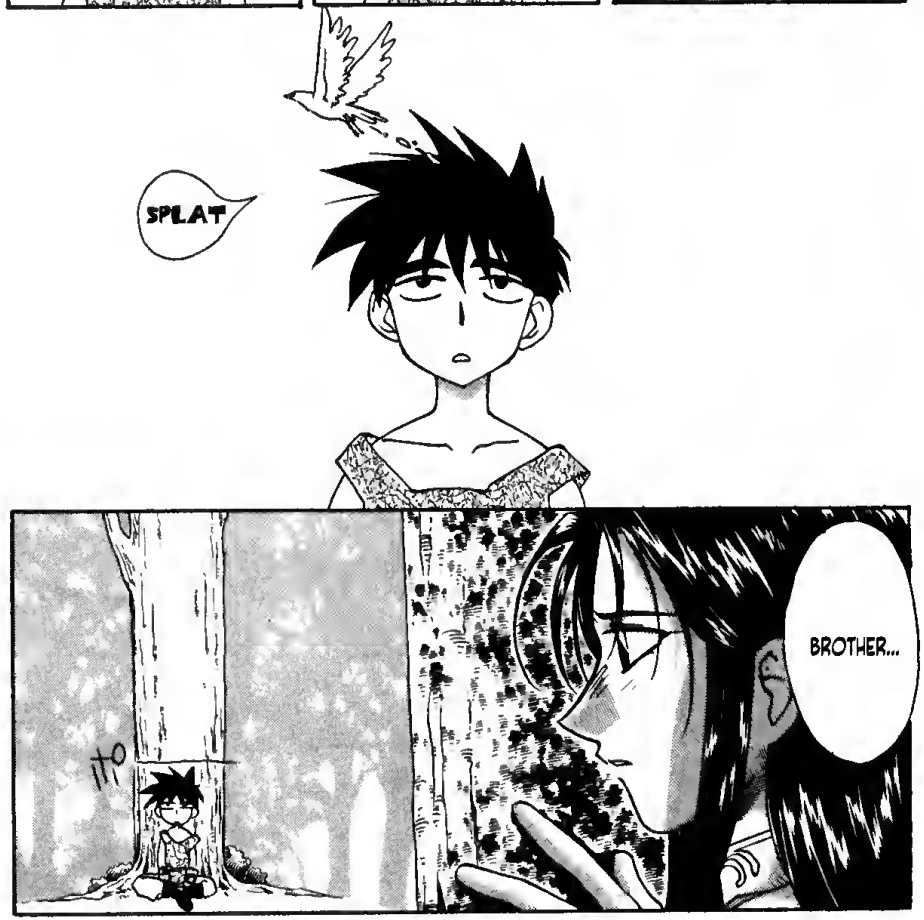
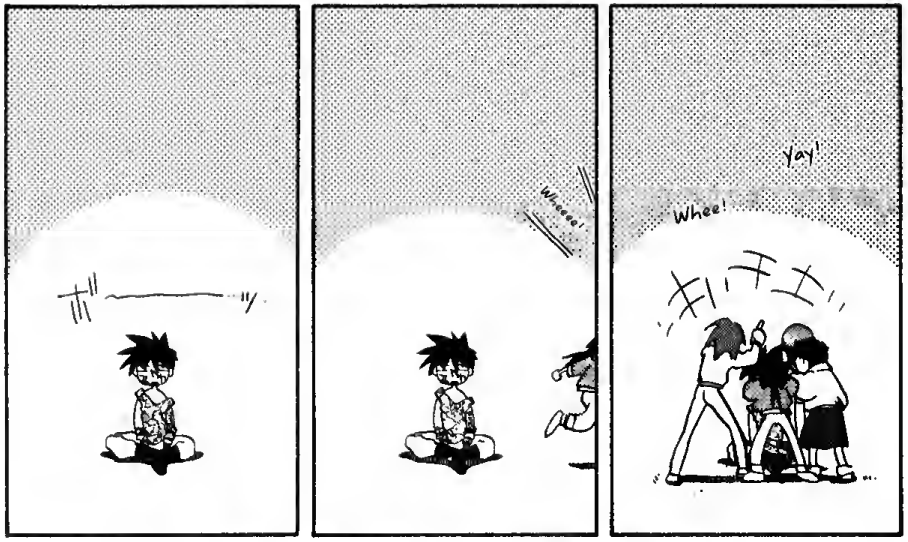
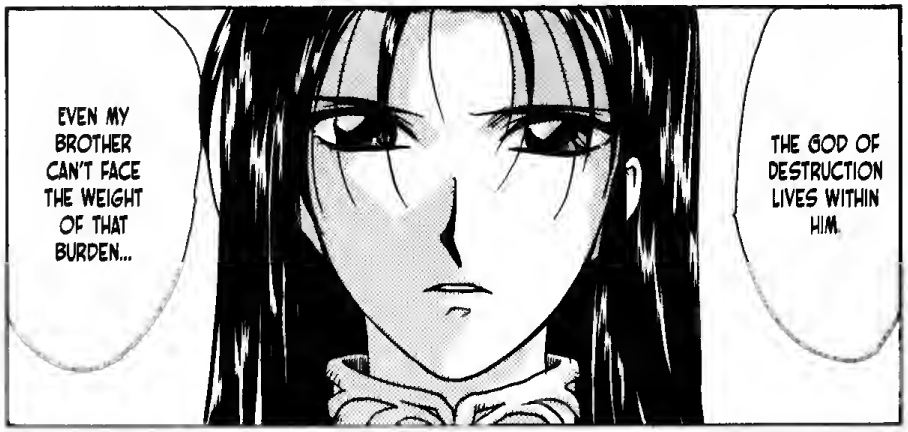

SPLAT
BROTHER...

STELLA
CHURCH
MAIN
DIOCESE
A.K.A. EDEN

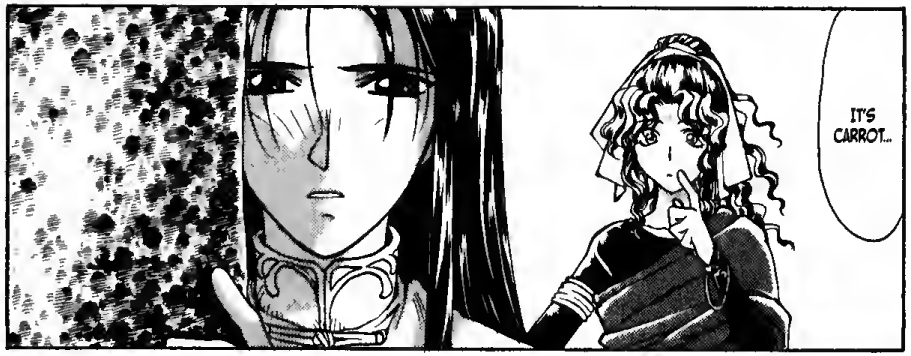

Whee!
Yay!
Whee!


EVEN MY BROTHER CAN'T FACE THE WEIGHT OF THAT BURDEN...
THE GOD OF DESTRUCTION LIVES WITHIN HIM.

I...I D-DON'T... I MEAN...
AW... YOU'RE *WORRIED*, AREN'T YOU, MARRON?

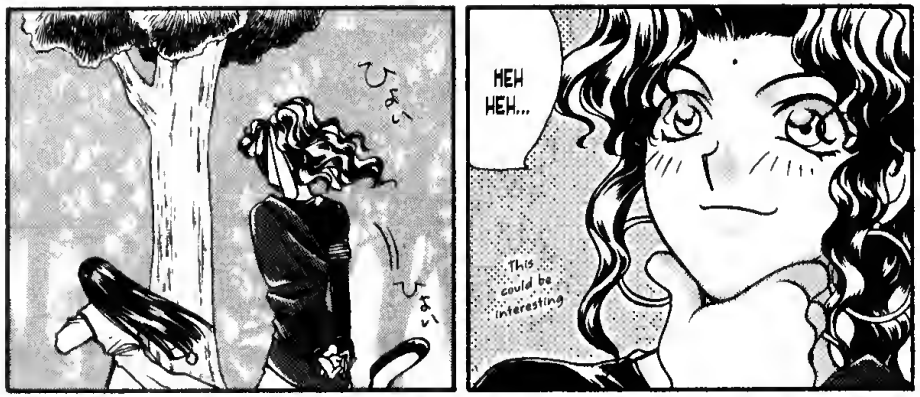
WHAT'S WRONG?

MARRON...

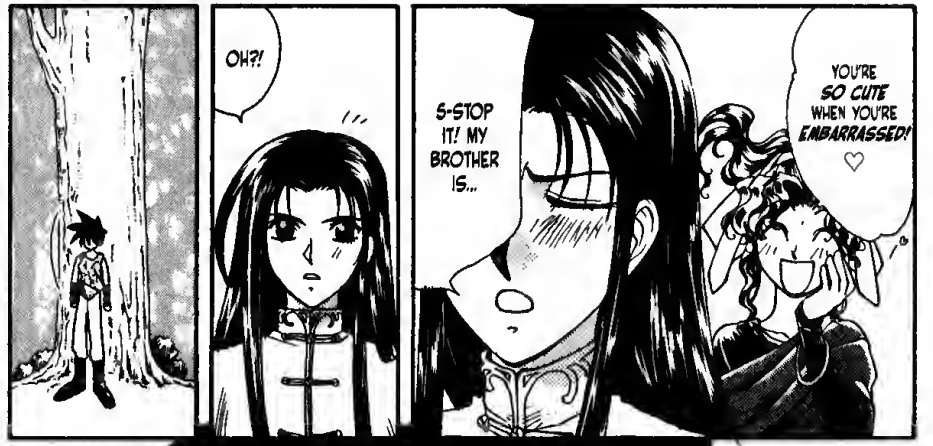

IT'S CARROT...

STRANGE? STRANGE HOW?

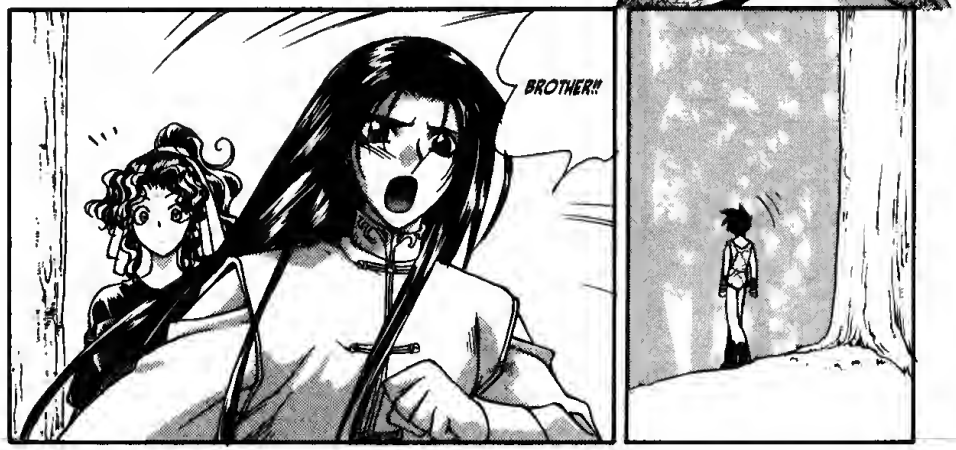
HE'S BEEN ACTING STRANGE EVER SINCE WE GOT BACK FROM THE FIGHT WITH SACHER.

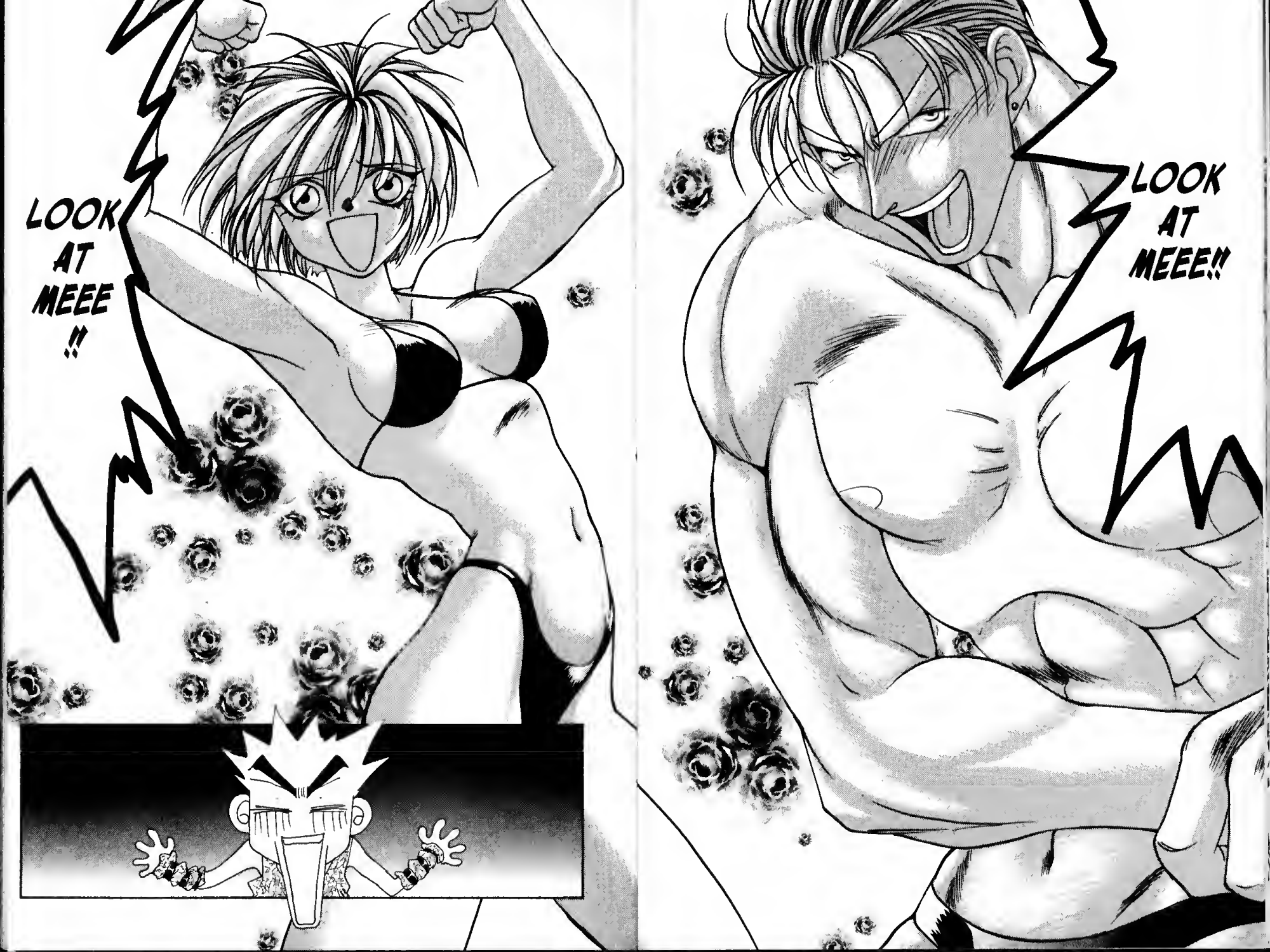

ひょい
ひょい
HEH HEH...
This could be interesting

カシュ
HUH?!
HEY GATEAU!


OH?!
S-STOP IT! MY BROTHER IS...
YOU'RE SO CUTE WHEN YOU'RE EMBARRASSED! ♡

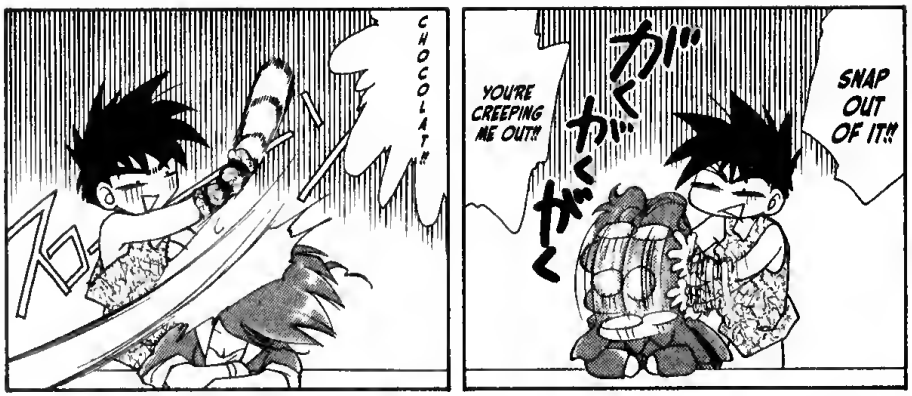
HMM...I JUST HAVE TO ASK SOMEONE...


BROTHER!!

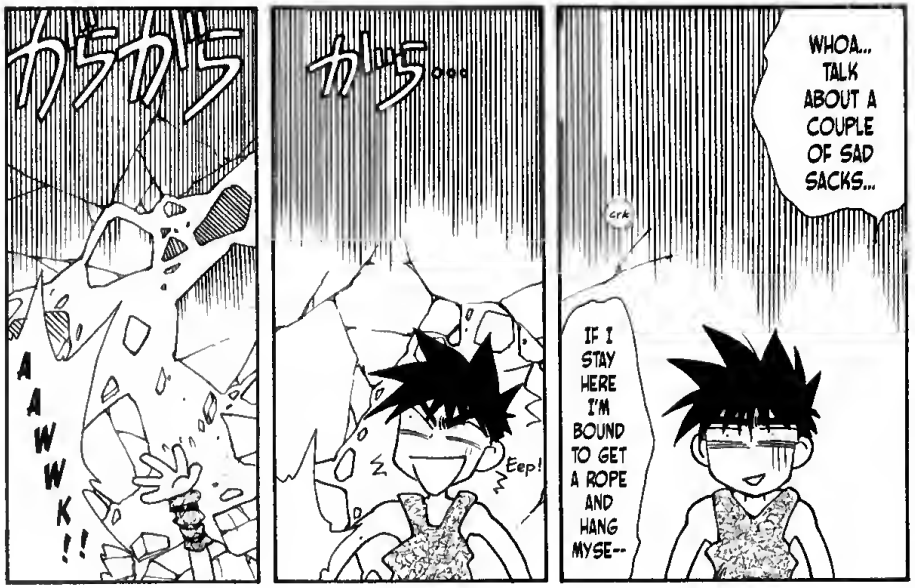

LOOK AT MEEE !!
LOOK AT MEEE!!

THAT'S THE BEST TRIBUTE THAT YOU COULD EVER GIVE MOM AND POP!
MASTERING THE MACHO POSE...
ECLAIR!
OH, GATEAU!
MUST... BACK AWAY... FROM THE CRAZY...
LOOK AT MEEEE!!
LOOK AT MEE!!

YEEK!!
WRONG!!
OHHH...
YOU'LL NEVER MASTER THE TRADITIONAL MOCHA MACHO POSE LIKE THAT!!
YOU'VE GOTTA PUT MORE INTO IT, ECLAIR!
GATEAU...
ECLAIR... I'M NOT DOING THIS BECAUSE I HATE YOU.


CHOCOLAT!!
YOU'RE CREEPING ME OUT!!
SNAP OUT OF IT!!

とほほーーーん
OH...
slipper

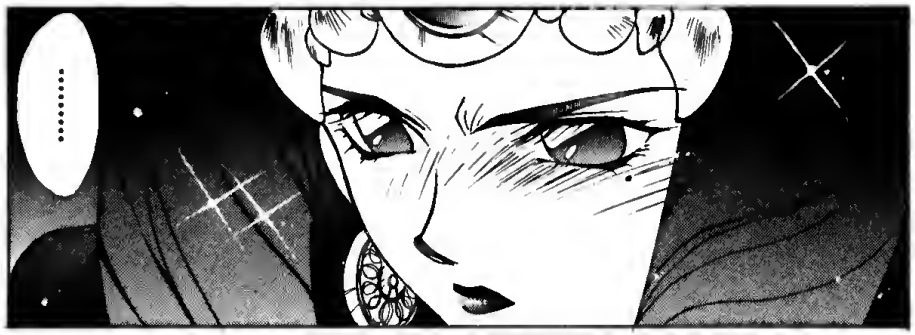

がらがら
AAWWK!!
がら...
Eep!
WHOA... TALK ABOUT A COUPLE OF SAD SACKS...
crk
IF I STAY HERE I'M BOUND TO GET A ROPE AND HANG MYSE--

HEY, TIRA, CHOCO-LAT ...!
URK!

H-HEY...

YES...
HE DIED...

...OUR FATHER...
SA-CHER... HE WAS...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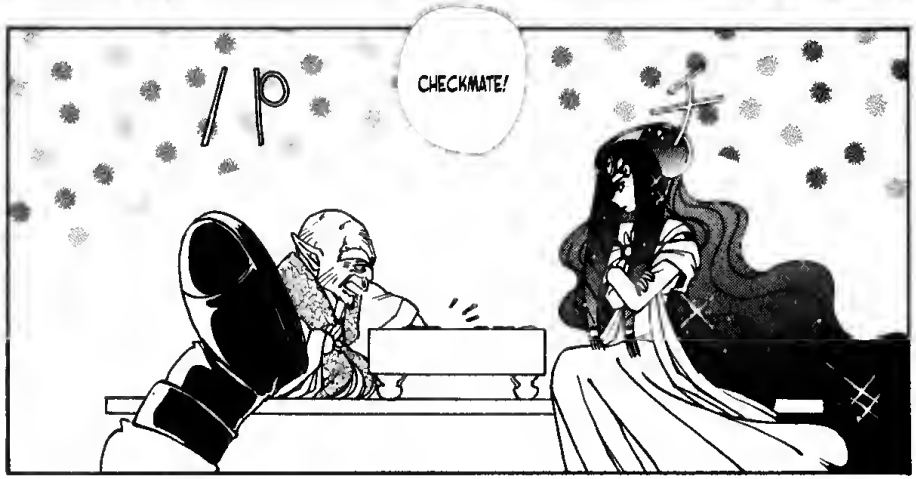
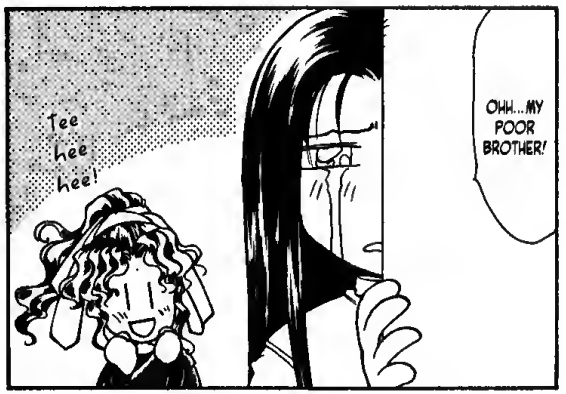
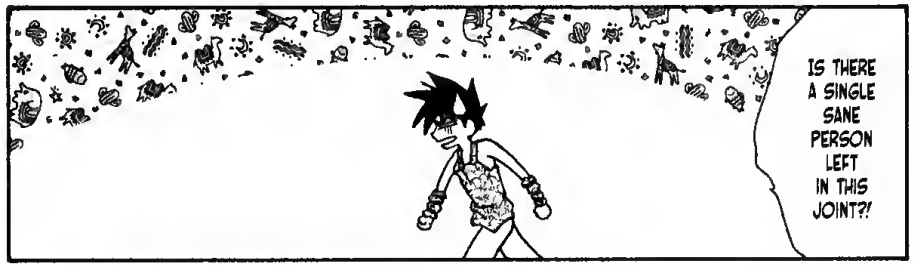
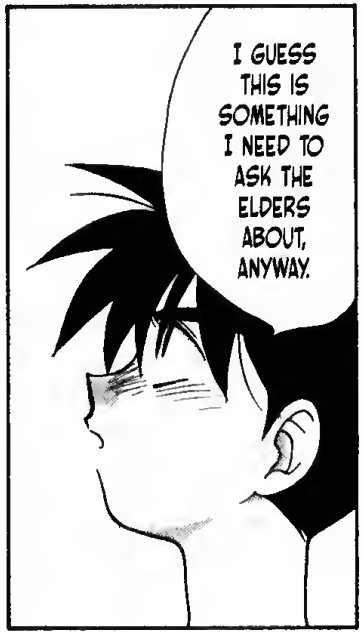

CHECKMATE!


Tee hee hee!
OHH...MY POOR BROTHER!

TH-THASS GONNA LEAVE A M-MARK...

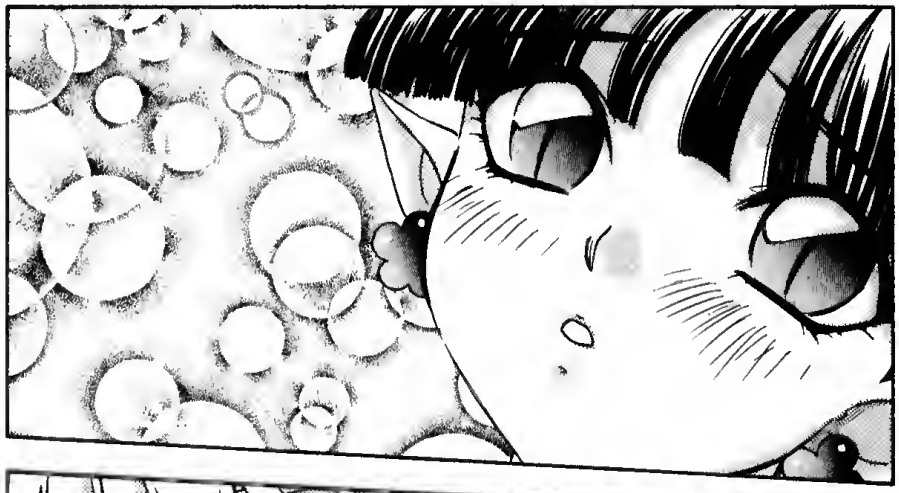

IS THERE A SINGLE SANE PERSON LEFT IN THIS JOINT?!

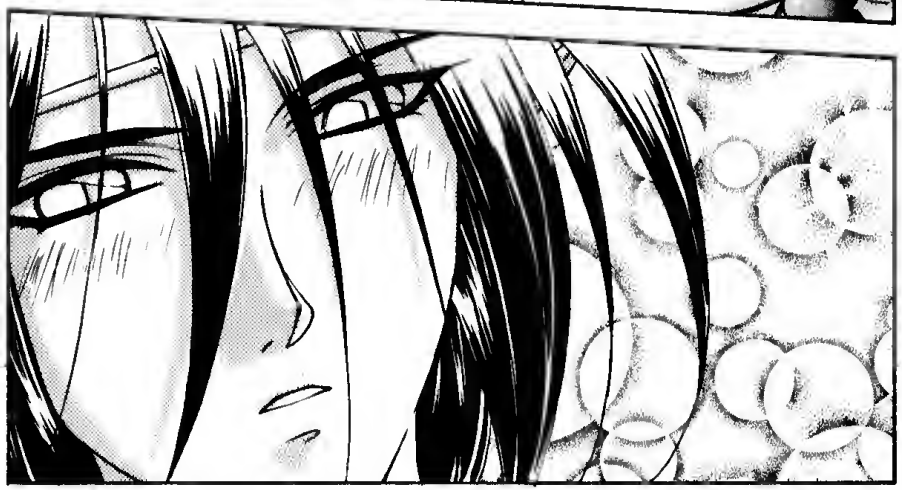
HEY! OLD MAN! BIG MAMA!
I NEED TO HAVE A SANE CONVERSATION AROUND HERE!

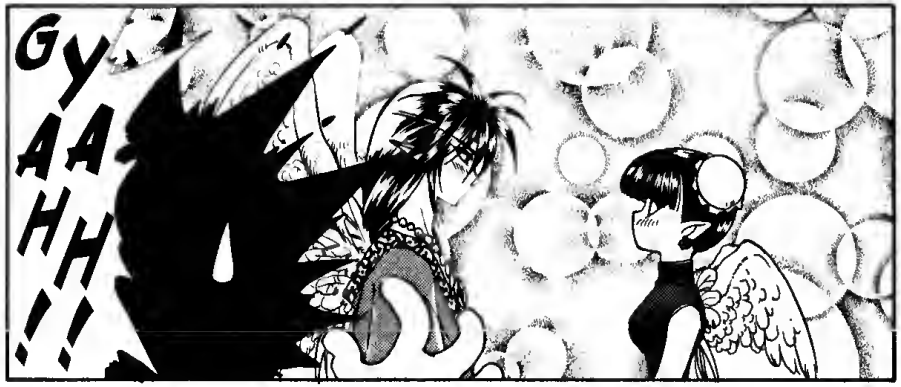

I GUESS THIS IS SOMETHING I NEED TO ASK THE ELDERS ABOUT, ANYWAY.

NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
YEERRRK! YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME!!
NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
NO NO NO
WHAT THE...?
NO NO NO NO NO NO
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
.....
WA HA HA HA HA HA!!
BROTHER...
HUH?
NUTS! EVERY SINGLE ONE OF 'EM ARE FREAKIN' NUTS!!

SORRY. NO GO.
ER... GRANDPA, COULD YOU BE A DEAR...
...AND HOLD OFF ON THAT MOVE?
PWETTY PWEASE, GRAND-PA...?
NICE TRY... BUT NO.
GRANDPA...DID I EVER TELL YOU HOW HANDSOME YOU ARE, HMM?
.....
NO MEANS NO.
NO, NO, NO!
PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE?!
NOPE.
PLEASE?!






GYAAHH!!

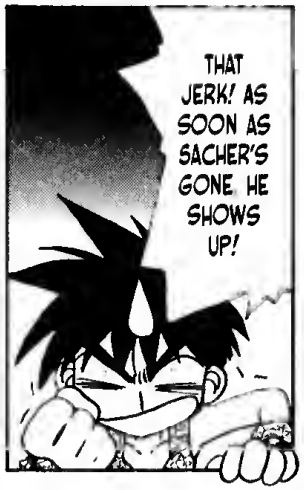
もじもじ

もじもじ

もじもじもじもじもじもじもじもじ

YES...?
I... Y'KNOW...

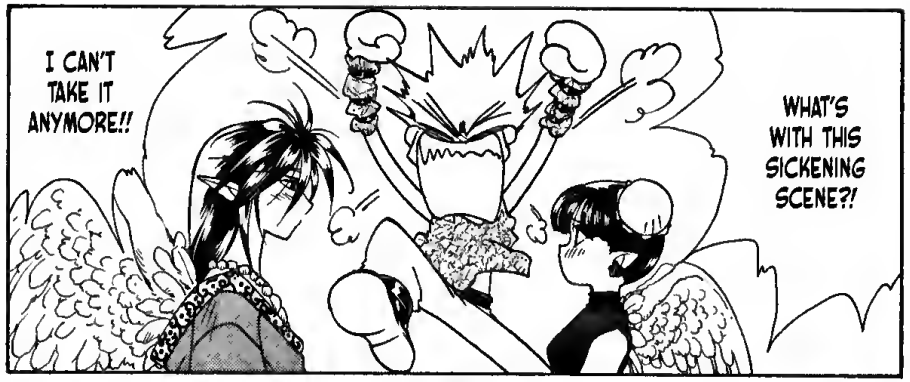
Y- YES...?
UH... UM...
HEY, HEY, HEY...!


THAT JERK! AS SOON AS SACHER'S GONE HE SHOWS UP!

OKAY!
"SHALL WE MAKE A BABY?"

THAT'S IT...
ぎゅ
(Sure thing!
I'd like to have three kids, minimum!

NO ONE UNDERSTANDS...
I CAN'T STAND THIS ANY-MORE!!

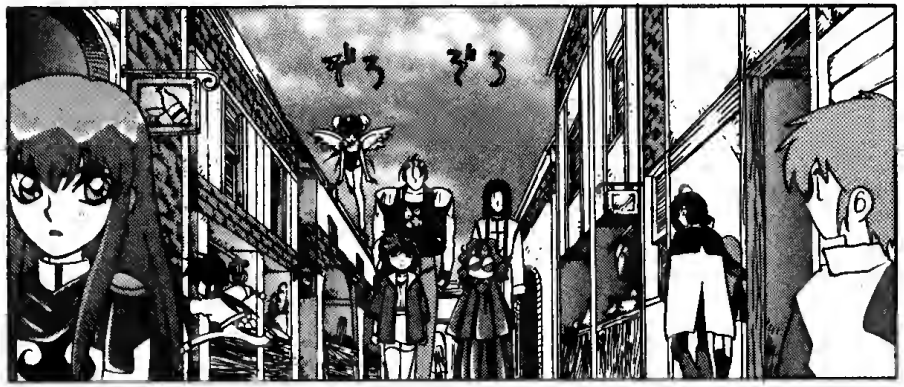

I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!!
WHAT'S WITH THIS SICKENING SCENE?!

UM...
Y-YES...?

GAAHH!!
CUT IT OUT, ALREADY!!

HUH?

HOW COULD YOU?!



NO ONE UNDERSTANDS MY PAIN!!
BROTHER!!

Waahhh!!
OH DEAR...

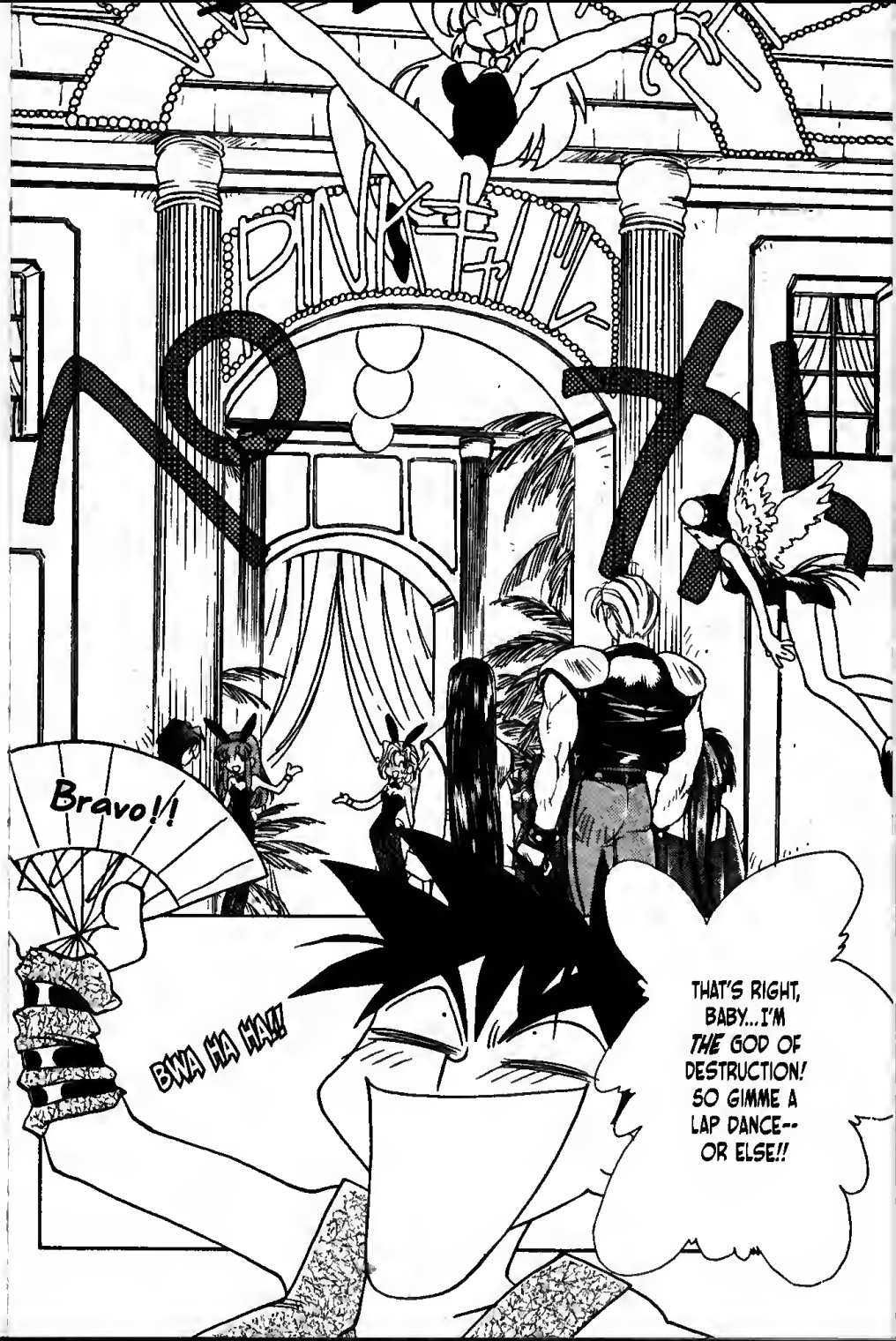
ONONONJ
?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
?
WHAT'S UP?
WHAT GIVES?

MARRON IS RIGHT... CARROT MUST BE GOING THROUGH A LOT RIGHT NOW, WHAT WITH DEALING WITH HIS FATE AND ALL...
WHAT A HOPELESS YUTZ.
THIS IS THE TIME WHEN HE NEEDS ME TO COMFORT HIM THE MOST...

MAMA SAID SHE SENSED CARROT'S PRESENCE IN THIS AREA.
CARROT'S JUST CONFUSED RIGHT NOW...
Bwah ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!!
HUH?

WHEEEEE!! ♡
きゃあああああああ
THE GOD OF DESTRUCTION SOUNDS SOOO COOL!
Tee hee!
Tee hee!
I'LL ADMIT, I WAS A WEE BIT WORRIED ABOUT HOW THIS WHOLE GOD OF DESTRUCTION THING WOULD GO OVER...BUT CHICKS TOTALLY DIG IT!
E-ek!
OHHH... YOU HAVE TO DESTROY ME, TOO!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, HOT CHICK NUMBER 12?
EH?!
NO WAY! THAT'S LIKE, SO COOL!
Tee hee!
BEING CURSED WITH A LIFE-THREATENING HARBINGER OF DEATH IS THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME!!
NYAH HA HA HA HA HA HA!!


PINK
Bravo!!
BWA HA HA!!
THAT'S RIGHT, BABY...I'M THE GOD OF DESTRUCTION! SO GIMME A LAP DANCE-- OR ELSE!!

HUH?

WHAZZUP, GUYS...?
UH...
HOW DARE YOU?!
EEEEEEEE!!
YOU'RE HOPELESS.
WH-WHAT DID I D-DO...?

YOU GOT US ALL WORKED UP OVER NOTHIN'...
AND TO THINK WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!!
BROTHER.. I SHED PRECIOUS TEARS FOR YOU...!!
DARLING... HOW *DARE* YOU *CHEAT* ON *ME*!!

LET'S GO!! PICK UP THE SLACK!!
MOVE!!

……
FOOLS!! KEEP MOVING!!
WE'RE BEHIND SCHEDULE!! SO PUT YOUR FILTHY BACKS INTO IT, LOWLY DOGS!!
ガラガラ
ヨロ……

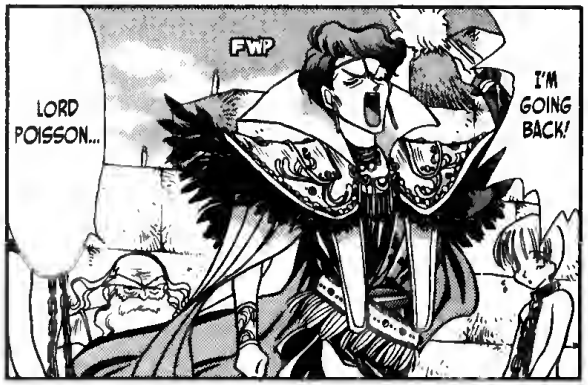
MAGIC CARPENTER

SUCH IS THE CASE HERE, ON CRATER ISLAND...
...WHERE THE COLD-HEARTED SORCERER, COUNT POISSON, RULES.
SO TELL ME, JINGO ROW...
...HOW IS THE CONSTRUCTION GOING?

SORCERERS WHO WANT TO INCREASE THEIR POWER COMPETE FOR THE BEST MAGIC CARPENTERS WITH LAVISH REWARDS...
...FOR BUILDING THEIR STRUCTURES.

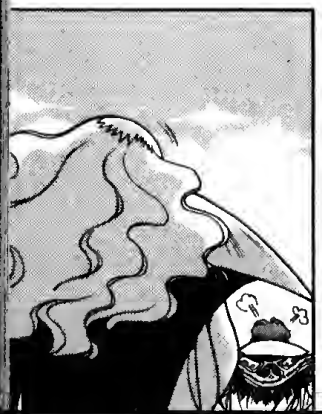
BECOMING A MAGIC CARPENTER IS ONE OF THE FEW WAYS A PARSONER CAN RISE ABOVE HIS LOT.
HOWEVER, THE IMMENSE EFFORT IN BUILDING SUCH STRUCTURES IS A GREAT BURDEN TO THE OTHER PARSONERS.

MAGIC CARPENTER--
AN ARTISAN WHO BUILDS STRUCTURES TO ENHANCE A SORCERER'S MAGIC.
BY FACTORING IN DIFFERENCES IN SIZE, SHAPE, ANGLES AND PLACEMENT, THEY CAN DRAW OUT THE POWER OF NATURE AND FUSE IT WITH ANY MAGIC.


LORD POISSON...
FWP
I'M GOING BACK!

I CAN'T STAND THESE CLUMSY FOOLS!

DON'T FORGET YOUR PROMISE. WHEN THIS IS FINISHED...

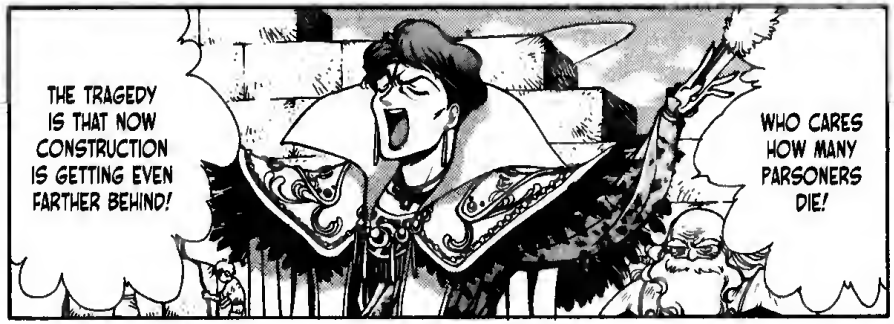


YES, YES! I REMEMBER, ALREADY!

HMPH.

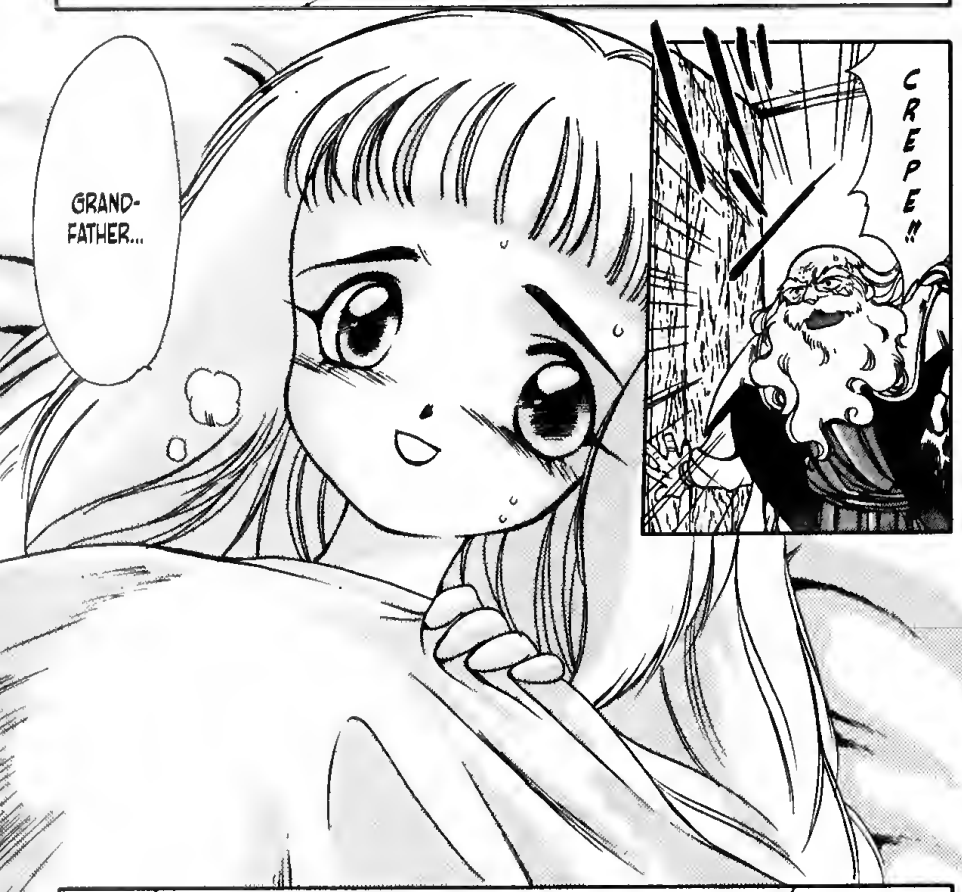
THERE'S BEEN AN ACCIDENT IN THE EAST REGION, WITH MANY CASUALTIES!

I SEE...TEE HEE HEE...! I CAN'T WAIT! ♥
THIS LABYRINTH WILL INCREASE MY MAGIC A HUNDREDFOLD!
MILORD...WE ARE SLIGHTLY BEHIND SCHEDULE...
...BY ABOUT ABOUT TWO MONTHS.


THE TRAGEDY IS THAT NOW CONSTRUCTION IS GETTING EVEN FARTHER BEHIND!
WHO CARES HOW MANY PARSONERS DIE!

KILL THEM IF THEY RESIST!
SO DO IT! HAUL IN A THOUSAND ABLE BODIES FROM THE CITY!

YOU JUST NEED TO RECRUIT MORE WORKERS.
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE.

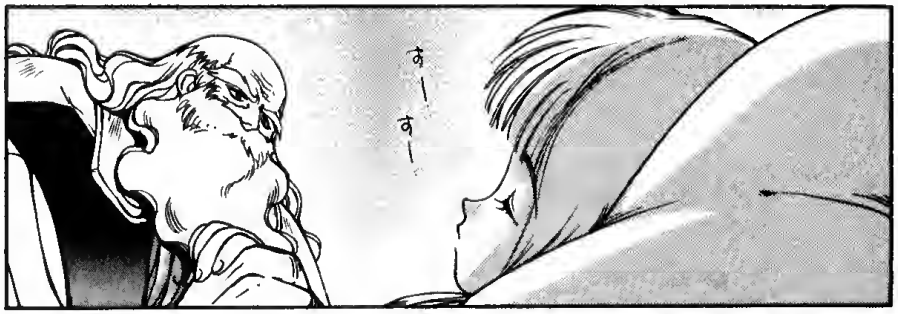

GRAND-FATHER...
CREPE!!

I'M OKAY...
CREPE!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! DOES IT HURT?!

HOW COULD HE WORK FOR POISSON...
I HEARD THAT HE USED TO SPIT ON JOBS FROM EVIL SORCERERS NO MATTER HOW MUCH MONEY THEY OFFERED...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT'S JINGO ROW. I THOUGHT HE HATED SORCERERS...

LOOK AT HIM! I'M SURE THE STORY THAT HE SPLIT HIS MONEY WITH THE PARSONERS IS JUST A RUMOR...
PFFT! SO HE'S JUST IN IT FOR THE MONEY AND POWER!
THEY SAY HE WAS THE ONE WHO APPROACHED THE COUNT FOR WORK.

LADY CREPE IS--
LORD JINGO ROW!
MAKE THIS A LITTLE HIGHER...
WHAT?! WHAT ABOUT CREPE?!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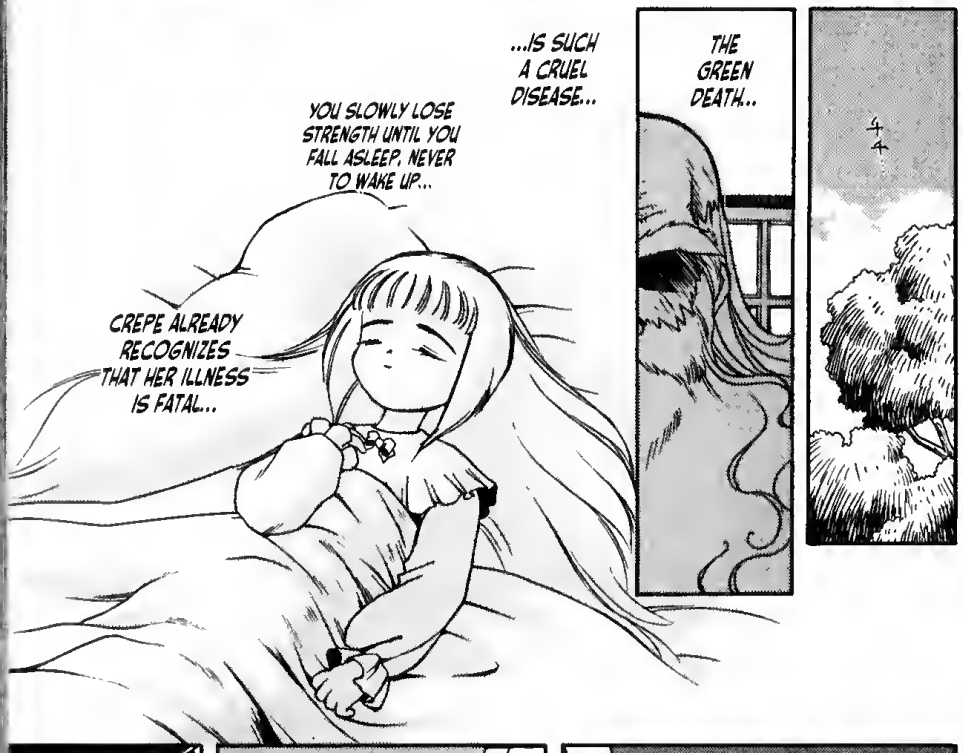
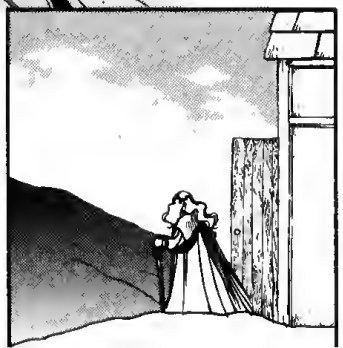
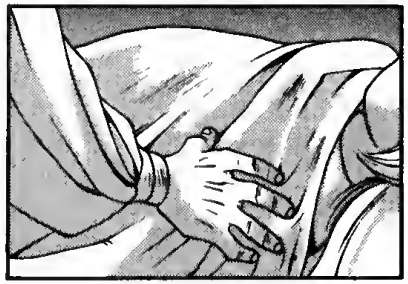
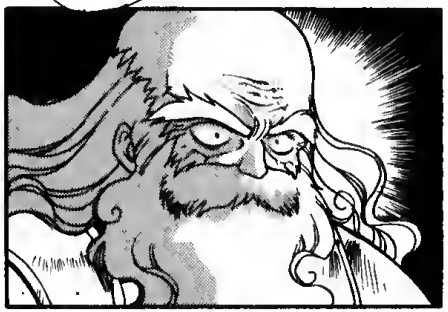

...IS SUCH A CRUEL DISEASE...
THE GREEN DEATH...
44
YOU SLOWLY LOSE STRENGTH UNTIL YOU FALL ASLEEP, NEVER TO WAKE UP...
CREPE ALREADY RECOGNIZES THAT HER ILLNESS IS FATAL...

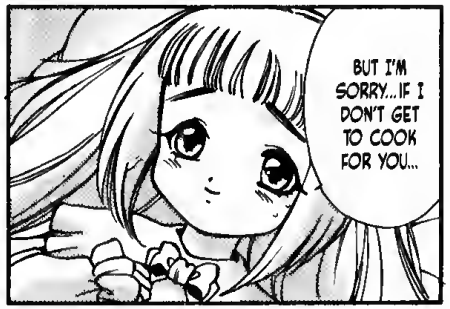




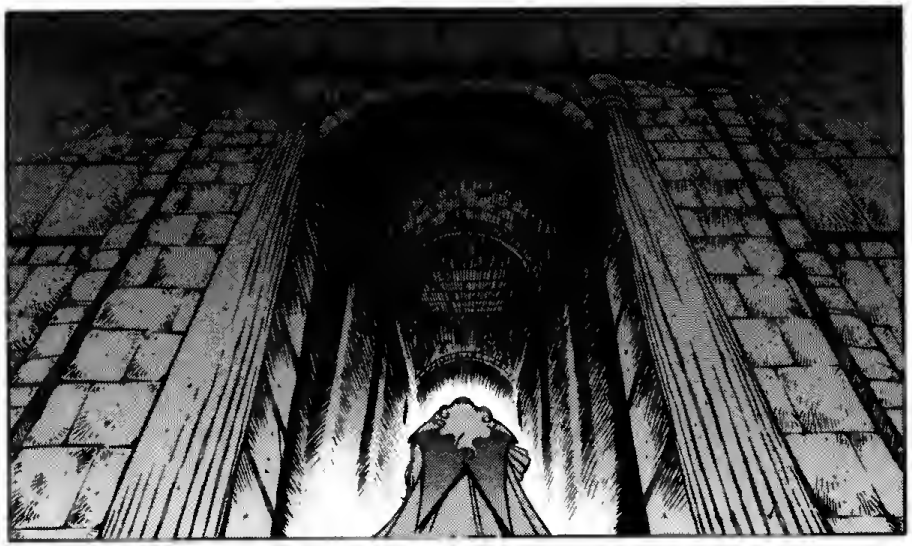
RIGHT...
GRANDFATHER... I WANT TO GET BETTER...I WANT TO COOK FOR YOU...
THEN WE CAN EAT IT TOGETHER!

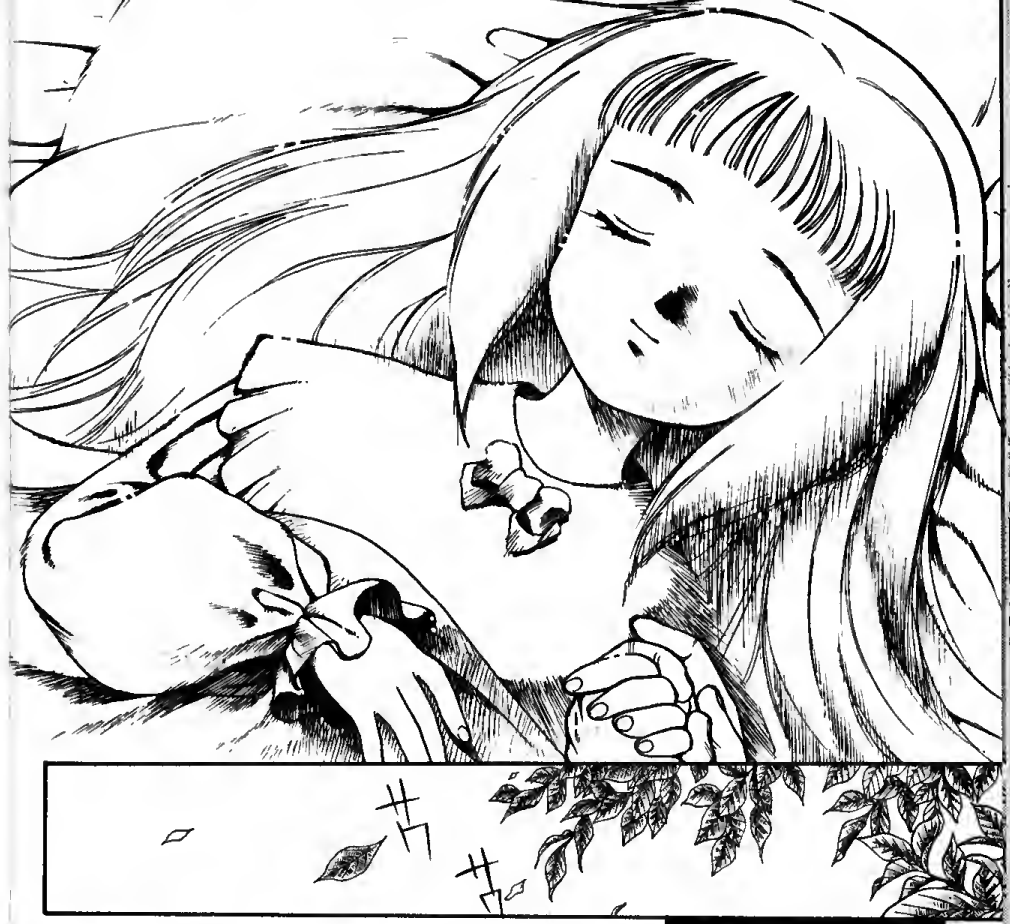
IS THAT SO?
I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO IT, THEN.
FISH WOULD BE GOOD, TOO. I'LL BE SURE TO GET ALL OF THE BONES OUT AND MAKE A WONDERFUL BOUILLABAISSE!
I'LL MAKE A DELICIOUS WHITE STEW WITH LOTS OF CARROTS AND ONIONS AND BROCCOLI!



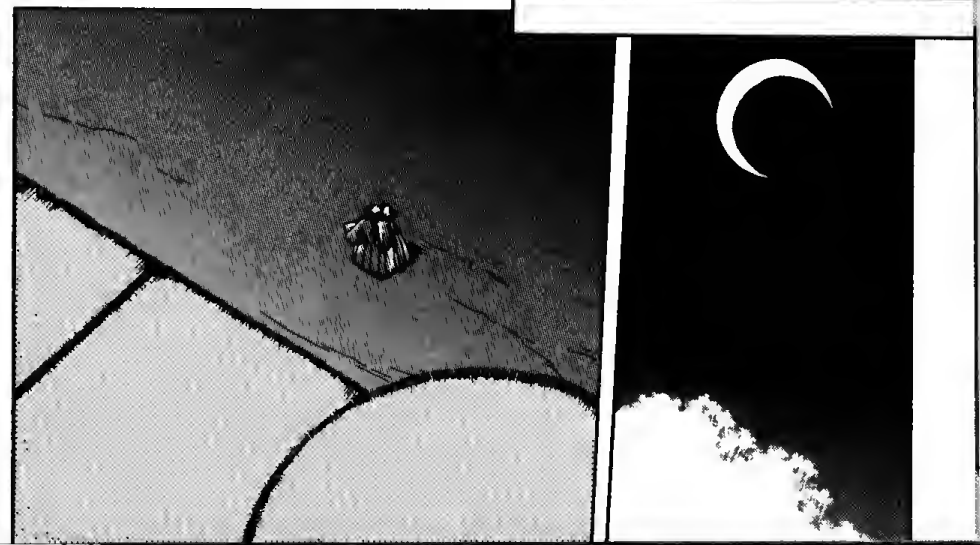

BUT I'M SORRY...IF I DON'T GET TO COOK FOR YOU...

HMM... WHERE IS JINGO ROW? HE SHOULD BE HERE TO BASK IN MY GLOW!
OHO HO HO HO HO! IT'S DONE! IT'S REALLY, REALLY DONE!
HOW WONDERFUL!
TWO MONTHS LATER...
...THE LABYRINTH WAS COMPLETED.
I WON'T LET CREPE DIE--NO MATTER WHAT!
EVEN IF IT MEANS SELLING MY SOUL TO THE DEVIL!



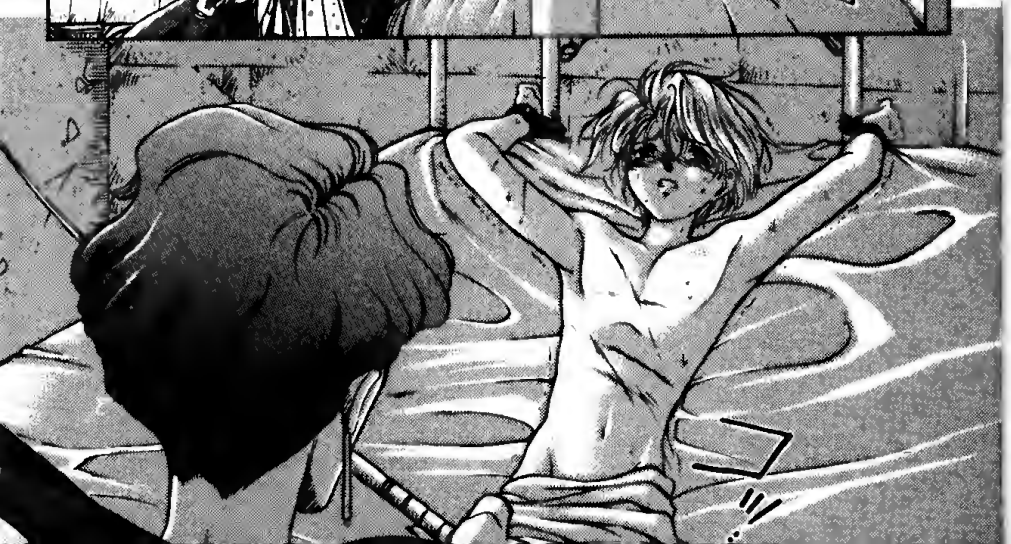


SEVERAL MONTHS PASSED...



NOW THAT THE LABYRINTH IS COMPLETE, NO ONE CAN RESIST MY POWER!
MORE! MORE! BOW TO MY WILL...

HEH HEH HEH...



STOP! PLEASE STOP! MY HUSBAND IS SICK! HE CAN'T WORK!
SHADDUP! ARE YOU DEFYING THE COUNT?!

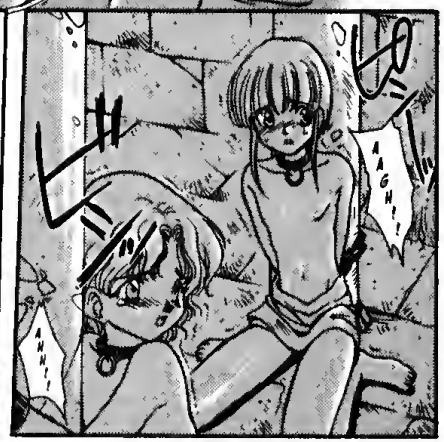
MERCY! PLEASE! WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY THE TAXES!
THEN YOU SHOULD SELL THAT GIRL!
I CAN'T DO THAT!

BACK OFF, YOU NOSEY BITCH--OR I'LL RUN YOU THROUGH!
PLEASE! GIVE BACK MY SON!
MOTHER!!

...IS THE DEATH MASK ON SUCH A BEAUTIFUL BOY!
HANDS OFF THAT BOY TOY, YOU PERV!!

BEAUTIFUL!
I LOVE THE MOMENT WHEN A PRETTY YOUNG BOY LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS...!
WHAT SAY YOU, SLAVE?!
AAHH!!

BUT...
WHAT'S EVEN BETTER...


AAGH!!
AHH!!

YOUR SLAVE ABUSING DAYS ARE OVER!!

HE'S A M-MONSTER!
EEP..!
AH! GOOD TIMING, WOLFREID!!
COUNT! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?! I WAS JUST GETTING TO THE GOOD PART...!!
NO MATTER!!
DIIIIE!!
LISTEN UP, YOU LOW-LIFE SORCERER!!
WE'RE THE SORCERER HUNTERS!!

STICK TO WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE...
...LITTLE DOGGIE!!

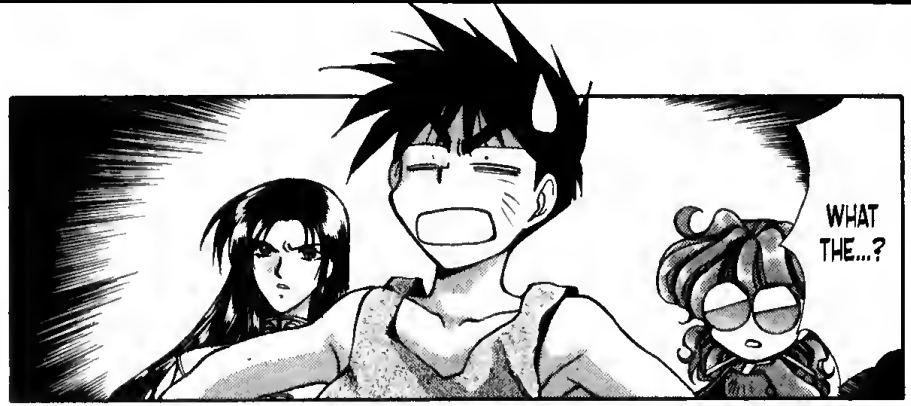
COUNT! NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
Gasp!
TH-THAT'S RIGHT!

You'd better put some clothes on first, Carrot!
LEAVING SO SOON?! THE PARTY JUST STARTED, TWINKLE-TOES!
Y-YOU TAKE CARE OF THEM!

GET RID OF THESE INTELOPERS!!

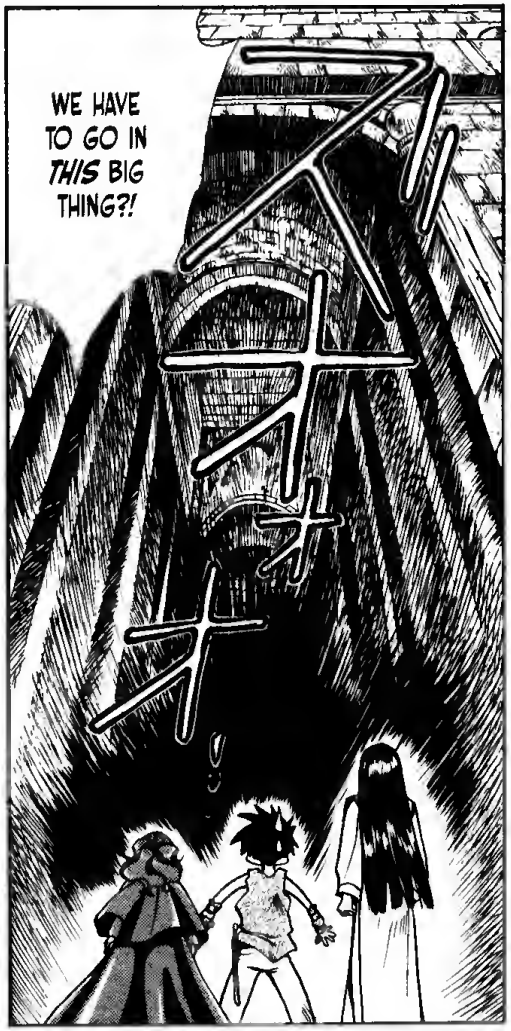
WHA?!
YEEEEE!!

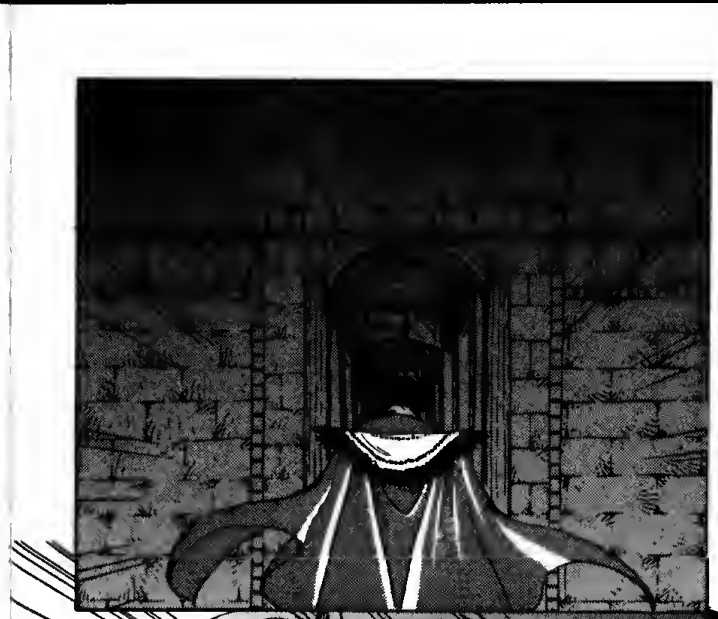
Gasp!
Huh?


WHAT THE...?

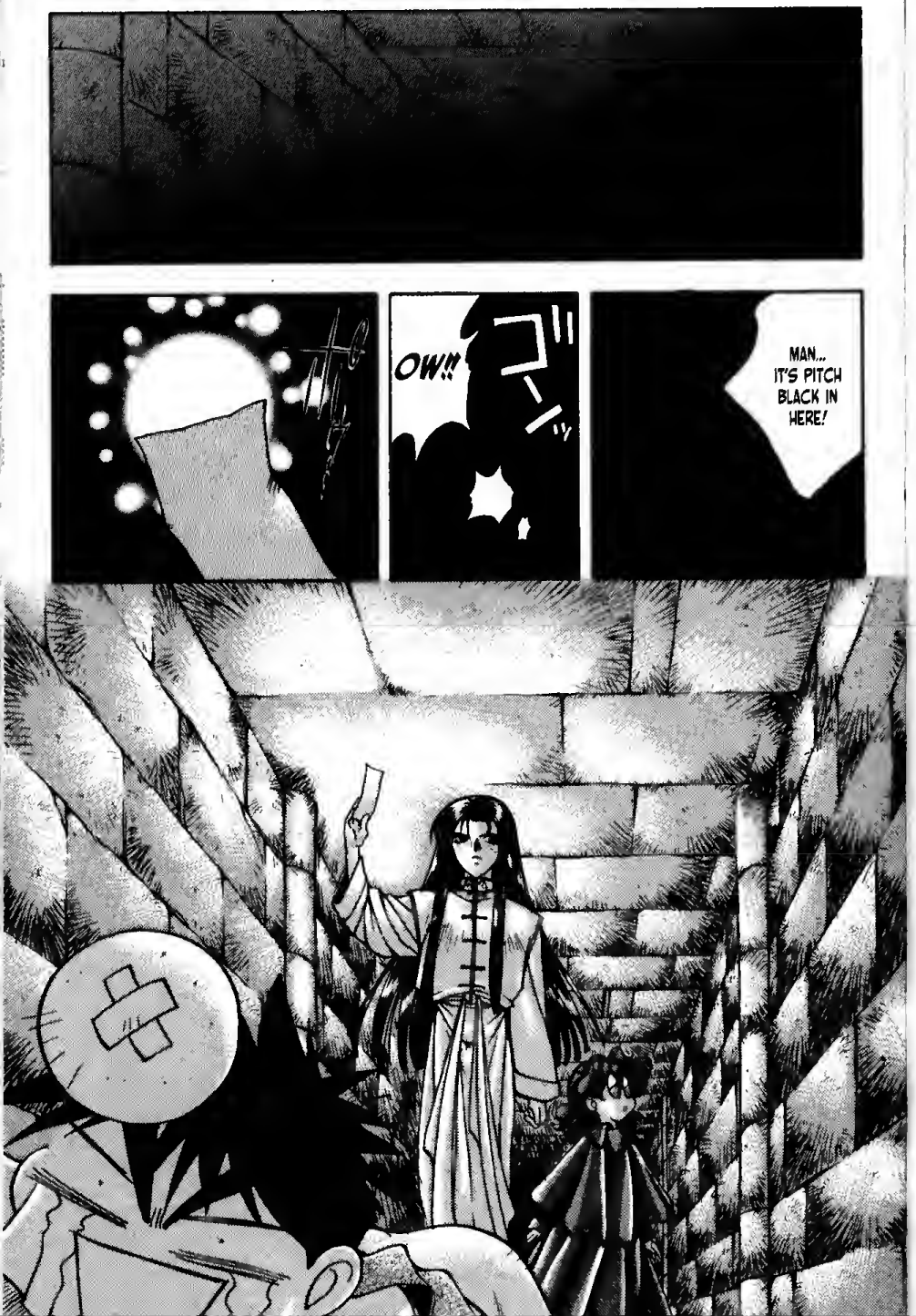
BROTHER... SORCERER HUNTERS *MUST* COMPLETE THEIR MISSION-- EVEN IF IT COSTS THEM THEIR LIVES!
DON'T FORGET THAT YOU HAVE THE PLEAS OF CRATER ISLAND'S 20,000 PEOPLE ON YOUR SHOULDERS.

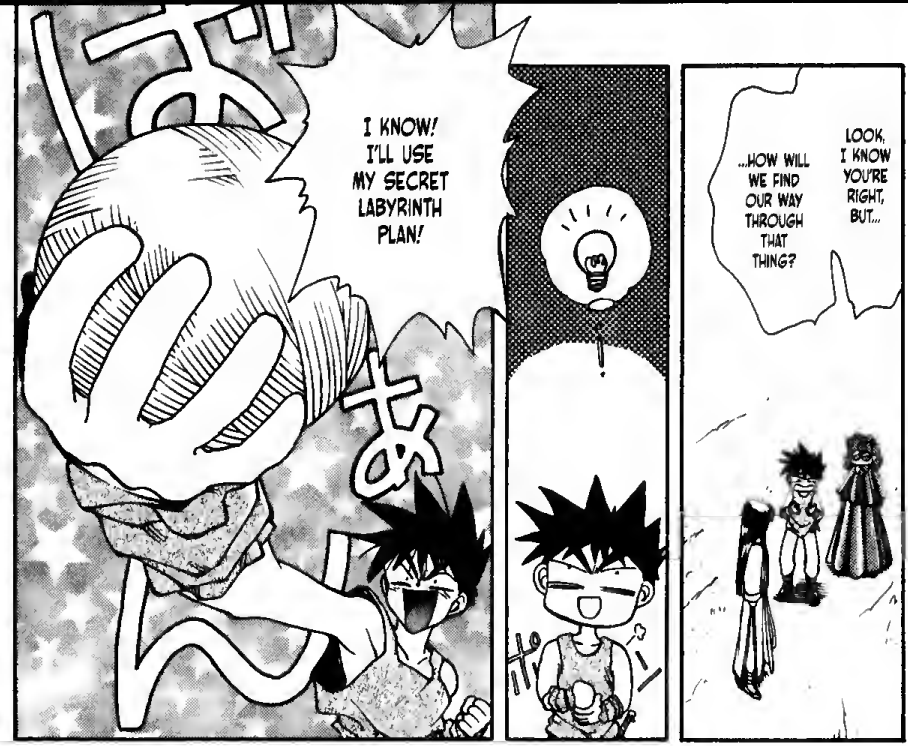
OH YEAH... HEH HEH. M-MUST'VE SLIPPED MY MIND...


WE HAVE TO GO IN *THIS* BIG THING?!



OH HO HO HO HO HO! I *DARE YOU* TO FOLLOW ME INTO THIS *LABYRINTH!*


MAN... IT'S PITCH BLACK IN HERE!
OW!!
ゴーッ

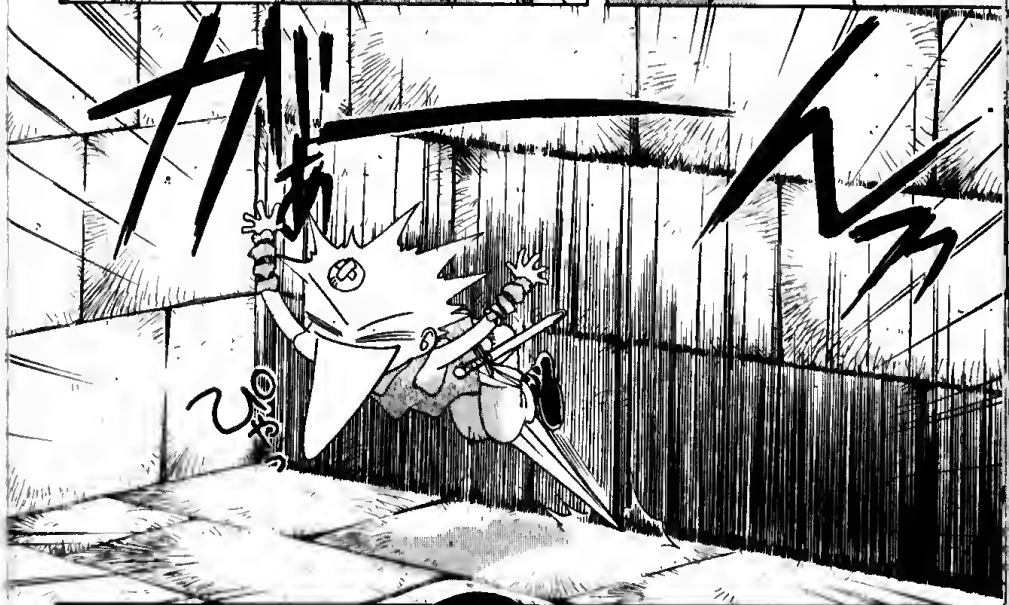

I KNOW! I'LL USE MY SECRET LABYRINTH PLAN!
LOOK, I KNOW YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT...
...HOW WILL WE FIND OUR WAY THROUGH THAT THING?

まゃまゃ
LET'S GO, GUYS!

SOMEONE HELP ME!!
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP GOING.
WE'RE NEVER GONNA MAKE IT OUT ALIVE!!
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!

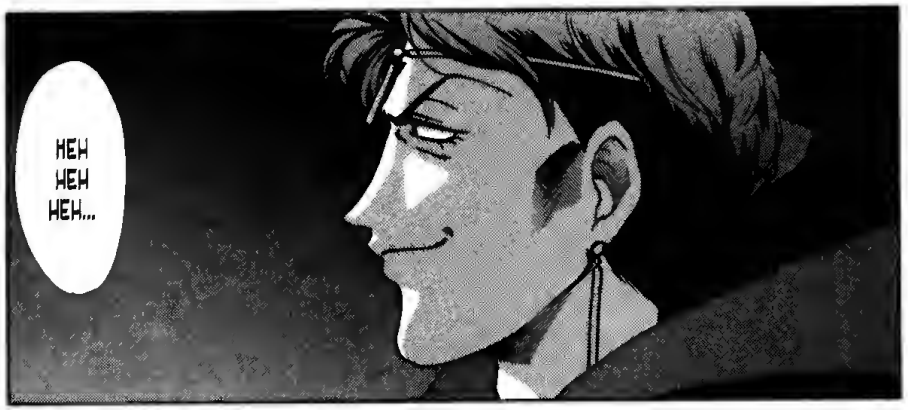
I wanna go back to the babes!
Aaagh! Neooo!

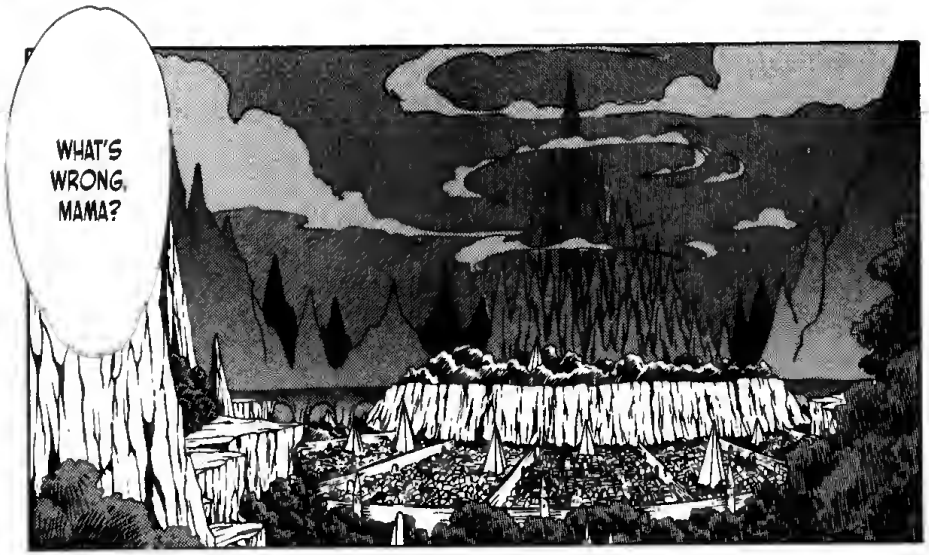
HUH?
WAZZAT NOISE?

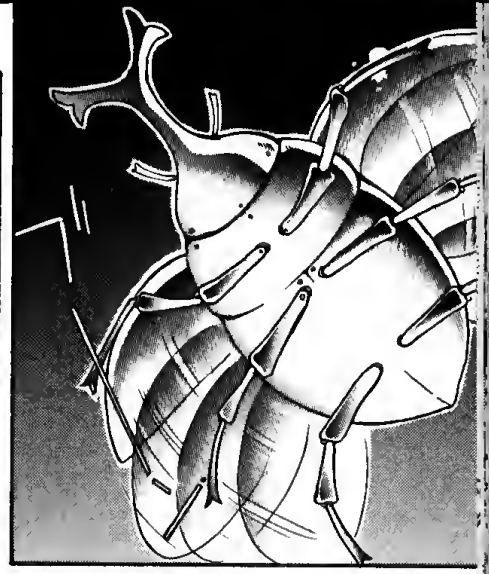


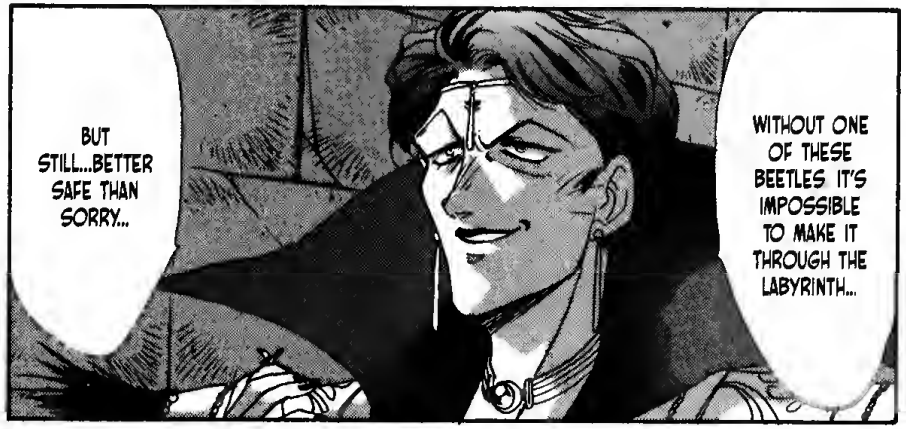
WHAT...!
THE WALL MOVED?!

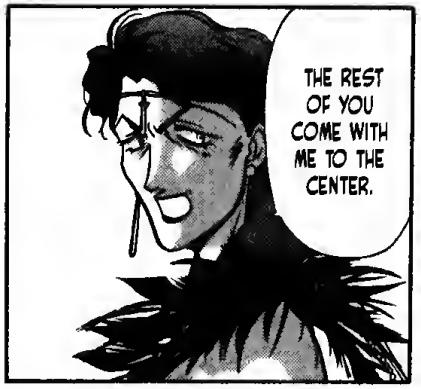
SOMEONE I MUST SEE.
SIR...WHAT IS IN THE CENTER?

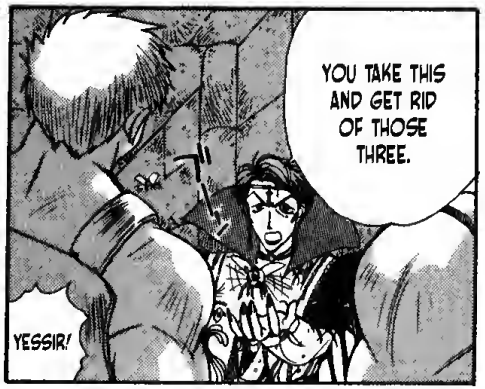

HEH HEH HEH...


WHAT'S WRONG, MAMA?

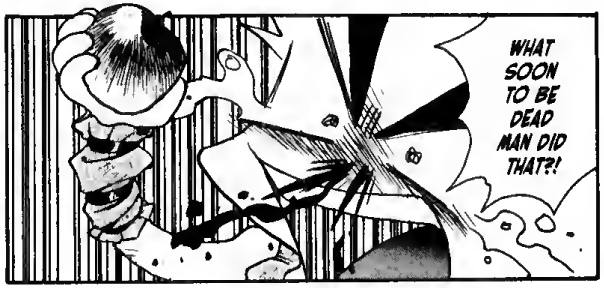



BUT STILL...BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY...
WITHOUT ONE OF THESE BEETLES IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE IT THROUGH THE LABYRINTH...


THE REST OF YOU COME WITH ME TO THE CENTER.


YOU TAKE THIS AND GET RID OF THOSE THREE.
YESSIR!

I WANNA EAT!!
AAAGH! I'M SOOO HUNGRY!!
THESE EMERGENCY RATIONS TASTE LIKE BIRDSEED!
I CAN'T STAND IT!!


WHAT SOON TO BE DEAD MAN DID THAT?!

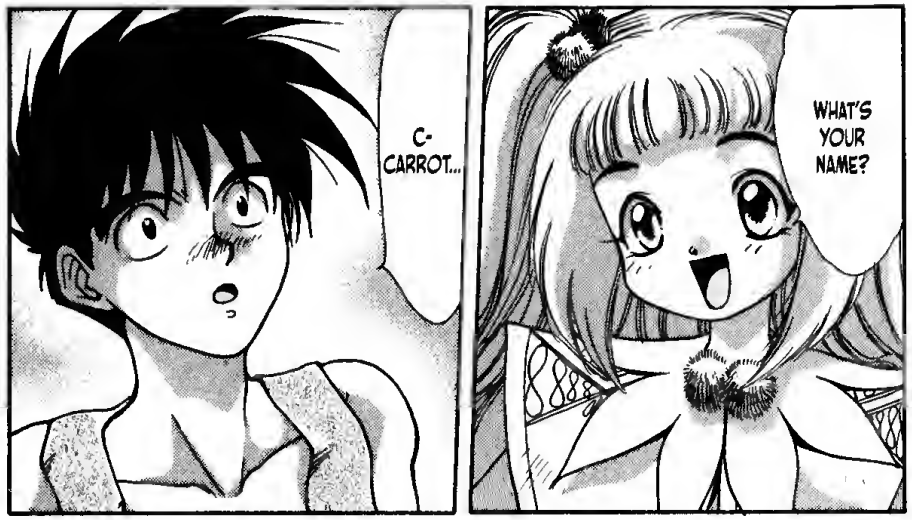
AHA HA HA HA!

I KNOW THERE'S MUCH MORE TO IT THAN MEETS THE EYE.
WHILE I'M CONCERNED ABOUT CARROT AND THE OTHERS... I'M EVEN MORE WORRIED ABOUT THAT LABYRINTH.
HUH?
I'VE SENT REINFORCE MENTS...
...THOUGH I'M SURE TOGETHER THEY WILL BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT...

AWK!!
I'M SORRY FOR HITTING YOU...BUT YOU SAID YOU WERE HUNGRY...
...SO I THOUGHT I'D GIVE YOU AN APPLE.
HONEST!
BUT IT WAS SO FUNNY WHEN YOU CAUGHT IT WITH YOUR FACE...
...I JUST HAD TO LAUGH!

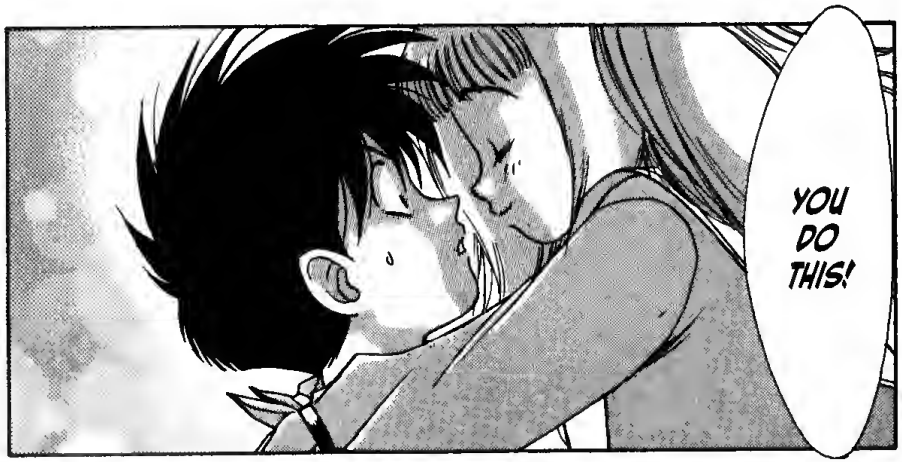
Tee...
Hee...
WHO ARE YOU...?
ME? I'M CREPE!

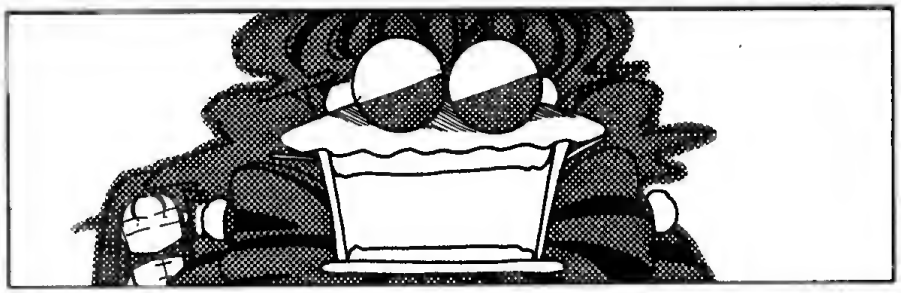
...I WANTED TO FALL IN LOVE!
IN... L-LOVE...?
OH, YES! I BET BEING IN LOVE IS WONDERFUL!
EVERY BOOK I'VE EVER READ TALKS ABOUT HOW GREAT IT IS!
EVEN A TRAGIC LOVE IS GOOD!
I WONDER WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO HAVE A BOYFRIEND? ARE DATES FUN?
WAIT... I'VE GOT IT!

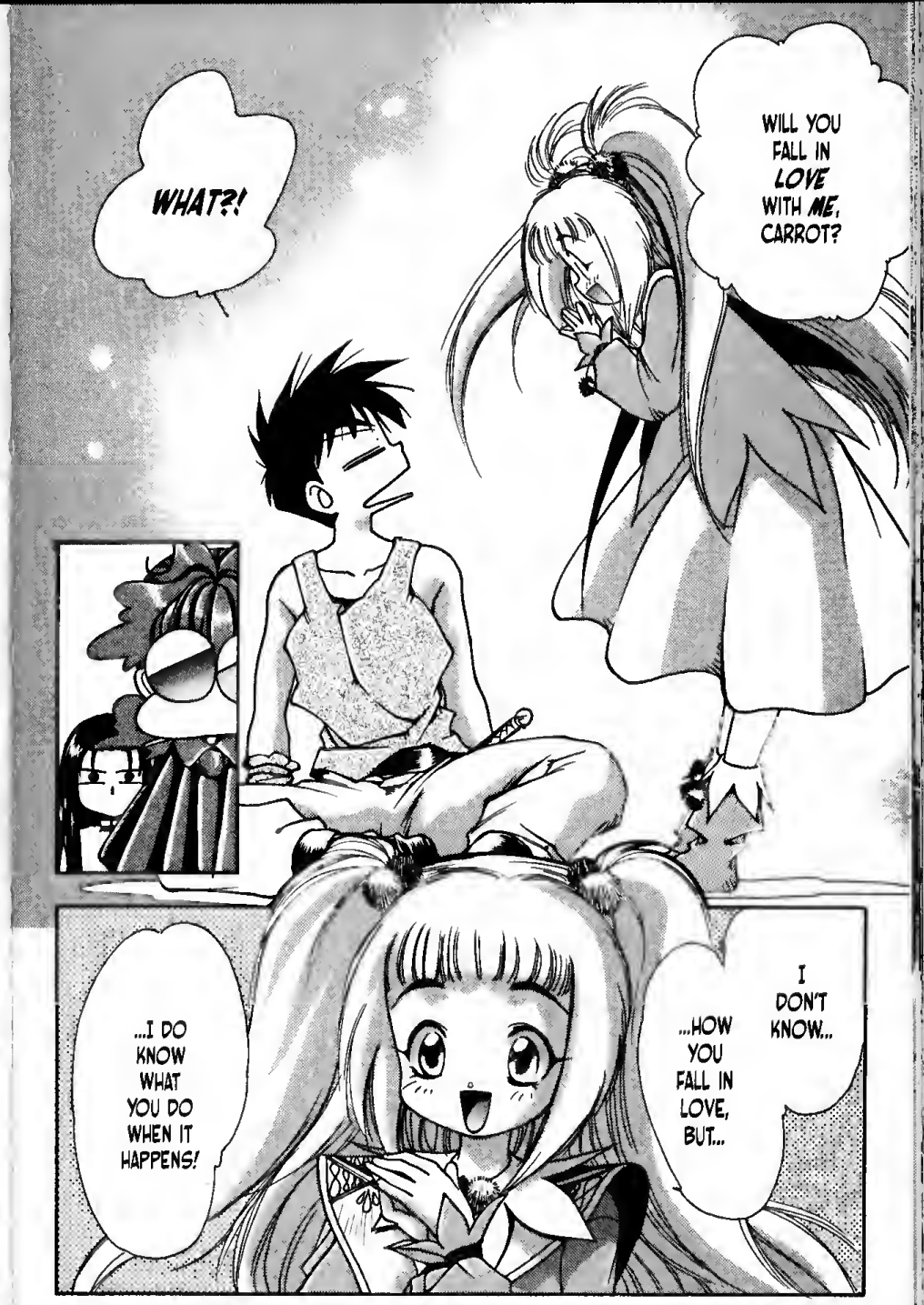

C- CARROT...
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

R- REALLY...?
THAT'S A WONDERFUL NAME!

OH!
AND THEN...
SO OF COURSE THERE ARE ALL THESE THINGS I WANTED TO DO WHEN I GOT WELL!
I WANTED TO RUN AND PLAY, AND LEARN TO COOK, AND HAVE A TEA PARTY...
GUESS WHAT? I WAS SICK FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.
IN FACT, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SPOKEN TO ANYONE OTHER THAN GRANDFATHER!


YOU DO THIS!

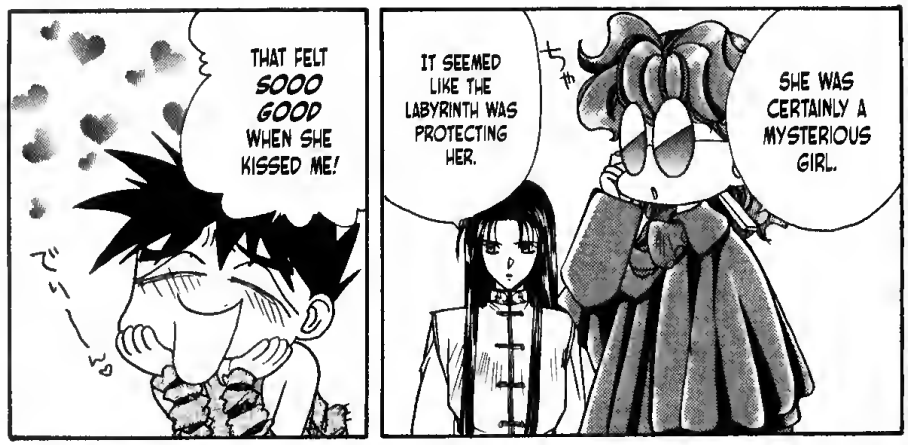



WHAT?!
WILL YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ME, CARROT?
I DON'T KNOW...
...HOW YOU FALL IN LOVE, BUT...
...I DO KNOW WHAT YOU DO WHEN IT HAPPENS!

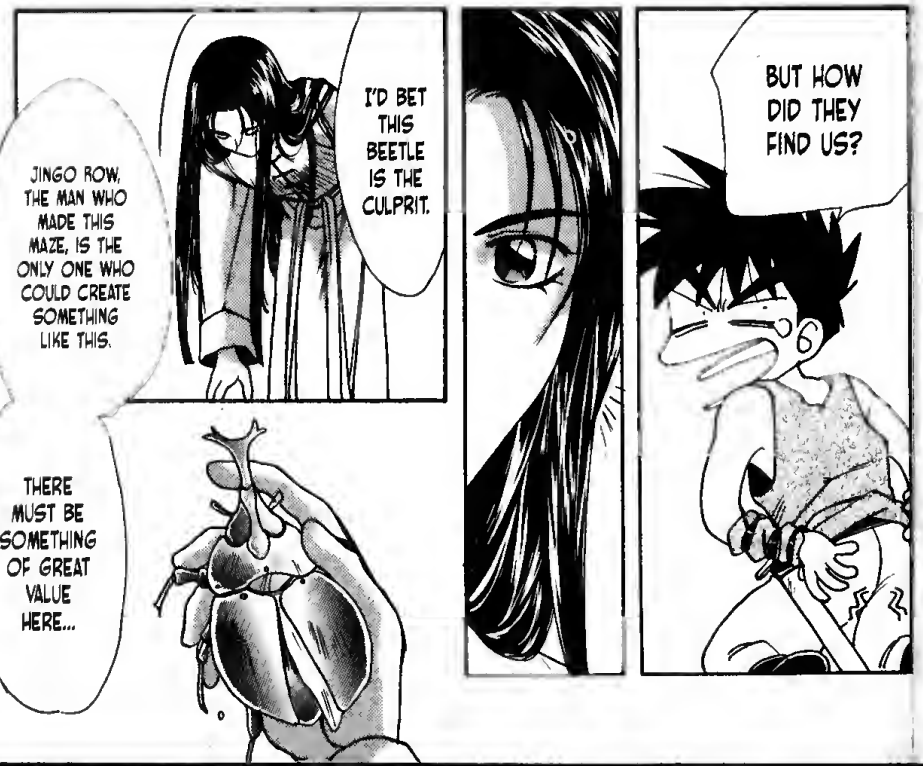
NOW HOLD ON A SEC...!
H-HEY...!
HUH...?
YEEEK!!
BROTHER!!
WHY DID HE ...?!
.....

YAAAAH!!
WHA--?!
WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS?!
?!

C-CREPE?! WHAT'S WRONG?!
Gasp!
WHAT'S WITH THIS WALL?!
GAAH!


THAT FELT SOOO GOOD WHEN SHE KISSED ME!
IT SEEMED LIKE THE LABYRINTH WAS PROTECTING HER.
SHE WAS CERTAINLY A MYSTERIOUS GIRL.

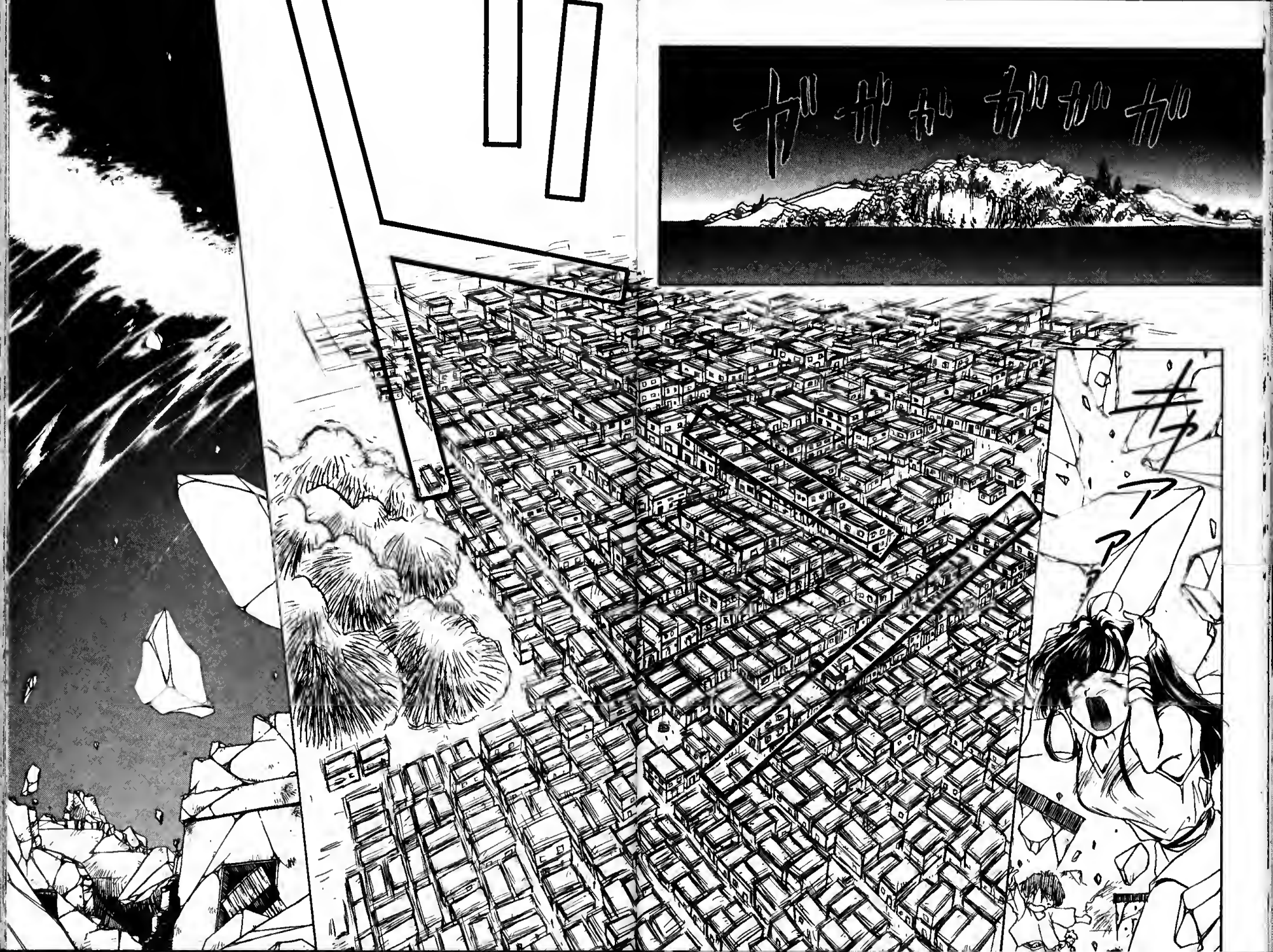
YIPE!


I'D BET THIS BEETLE IS THE CULPRIT.
JINGO ROW, THE MAN WHO MADE THIS MAZE, IS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD CREATE SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING OF GREAT VALUE HERE...
BUT HOW DID THEY FIND US?

GRAAH!!

STICK
PLIP

!!
WHAT THE--?! AN EARTHQUAKE?! ANOTHER TRICK OF THE MAZE?!
THIS ISN'T THE MAZE'S DOING!
A REAL EARTH-QUAKE?!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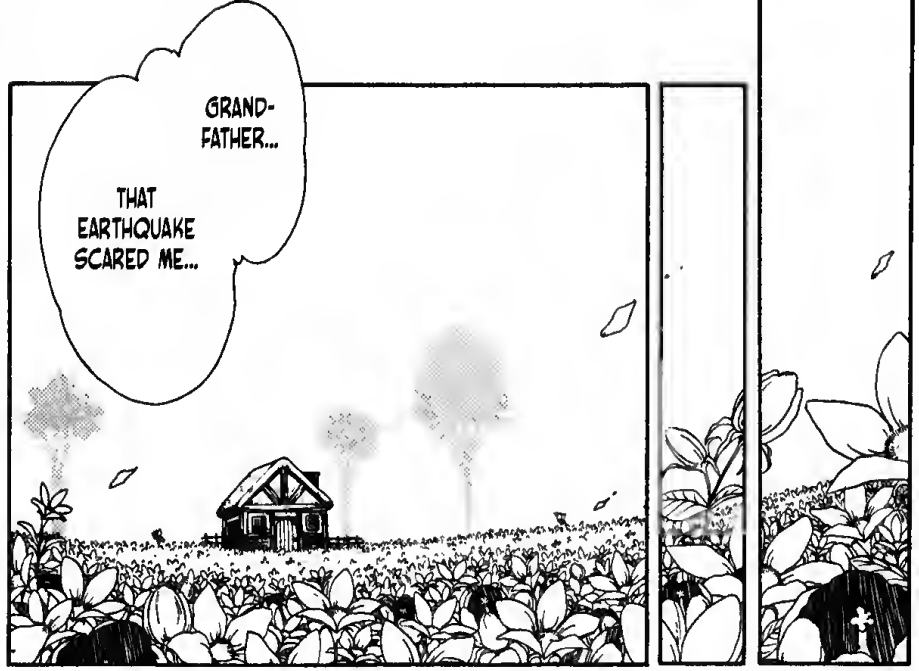
WE'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING TO SAVE THEM-- FAST!

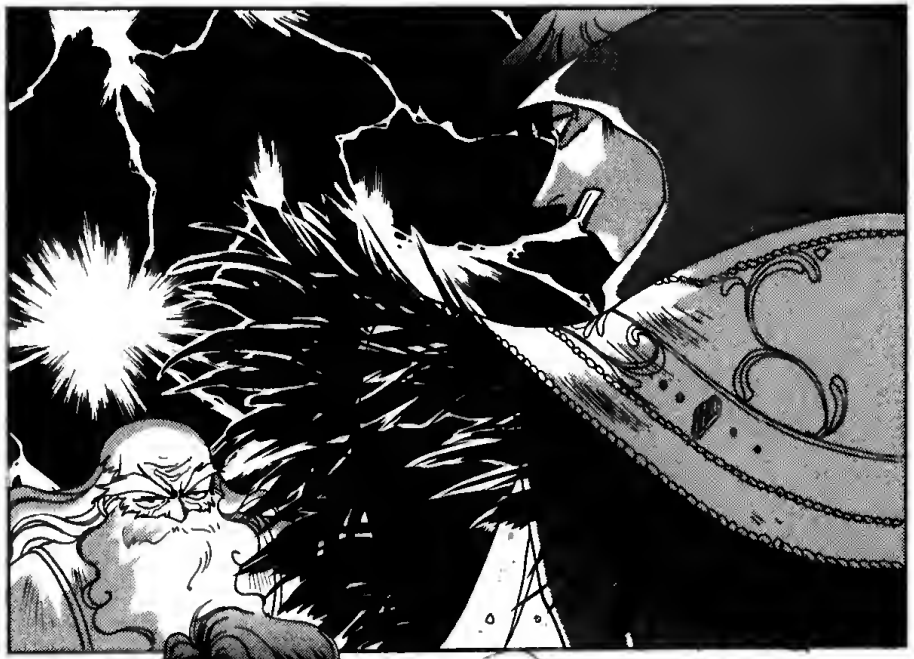
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
DUH! YOU THINK?
HU?

GRAND-FATHER... I...
CREPE...IS SOMETHING WRONG...?
JINGO ROW!!
I NEED YOUR HELP!!

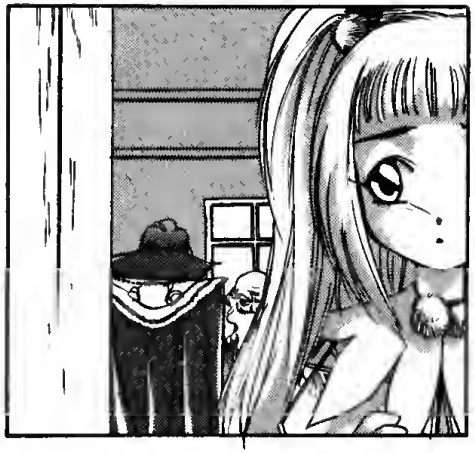

GRAND-FATHER...
THAT EARTHQUAKE SCARED ME...

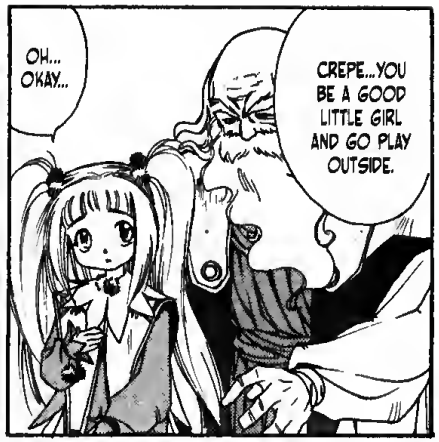
.....
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF...
GRANDFATHER WILL PROTECT YOU!

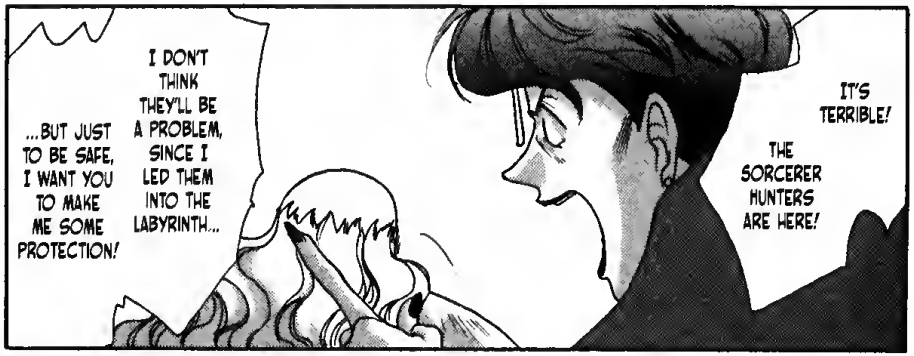
I EVEN USED THE SECRET SPELL HANDED DOWN THROUGH MY FAMILY TO DO IT!!



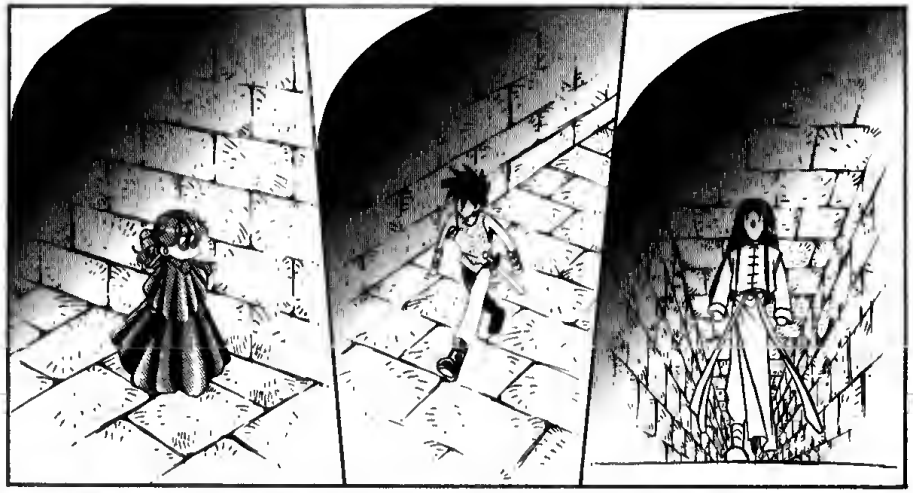
BUT JUST KNOW THIS...
VERY WELL IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE STUBBORN...
HMPH!




OH... OKAY...
CREPE...YOU BE A GOOD LITTLE GIRL AND GO PLAY OUTSIDE.


...BUT JUST TO BE SAFE, I WANT YOU TO MAKE ME SOME PROTECTION!
I DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE A PROBLEM, SINCE I LED THEM INTO THE LABYRINTH...
IT'S TERRIBLE!
THE SORCERER HUNTERS ARE HERE!

OF ALL THE NERVE... WHO DO YOU THINK *GAVE YOU* THAT *QUIET LIFE?!*
I DON'T WANT YOU TO INTERFERE WITH MY QUIET LIFE HERE.
MY CONTRACT WITH YOU IS OVER, COUNT.
NO.
.....



I WILL ACCEPT THAT CONTRACT WITH YOU AFTER ALL...
IN RETURN, KEEP THEM FAR AWAY FROM HERE.

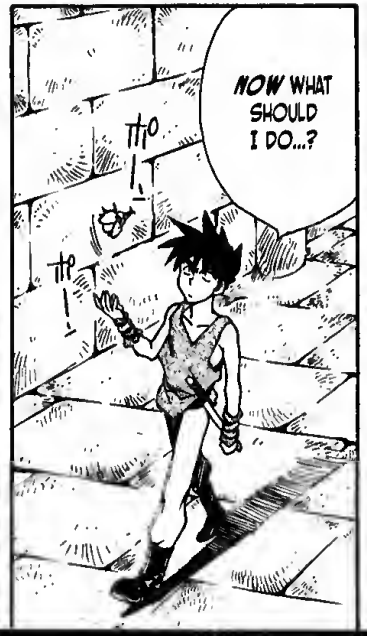
THIS WAY...
ガラ ガラ
ガシッ

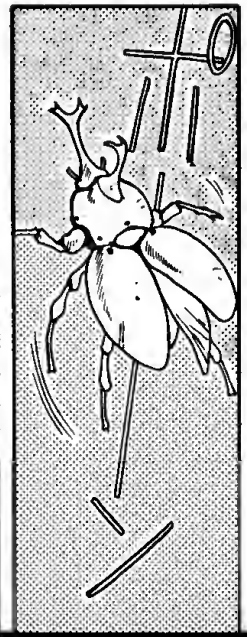
IF HE WERE TO MEET YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER...
...ONE OF THE HUNTERS POSSESSES THE POWER OF ARANJU.

THEN CREPE'S SYMPTOMS...?!

...NEXT TIME VICTORY WILL BE MINE!!
HEH HEH HEH...YES... YES! WITH WEAPONS LIKE THESE...

I GOT SEPARATED FROM MARRON AND TIRA DURING THE QUAKE...AND NOW ALL I HAVE TO KEEP ME COMPANY IS THIS STUPID BUG...


NOW WHAT SHOULD I DO...?



BROTHER!!
TIRA!!
!!

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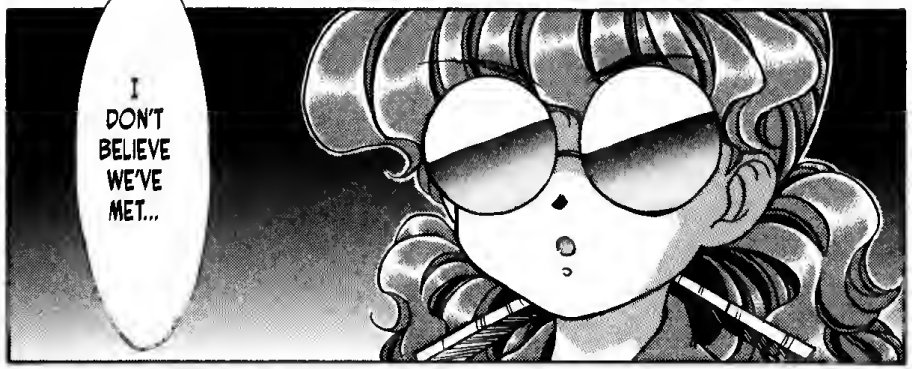
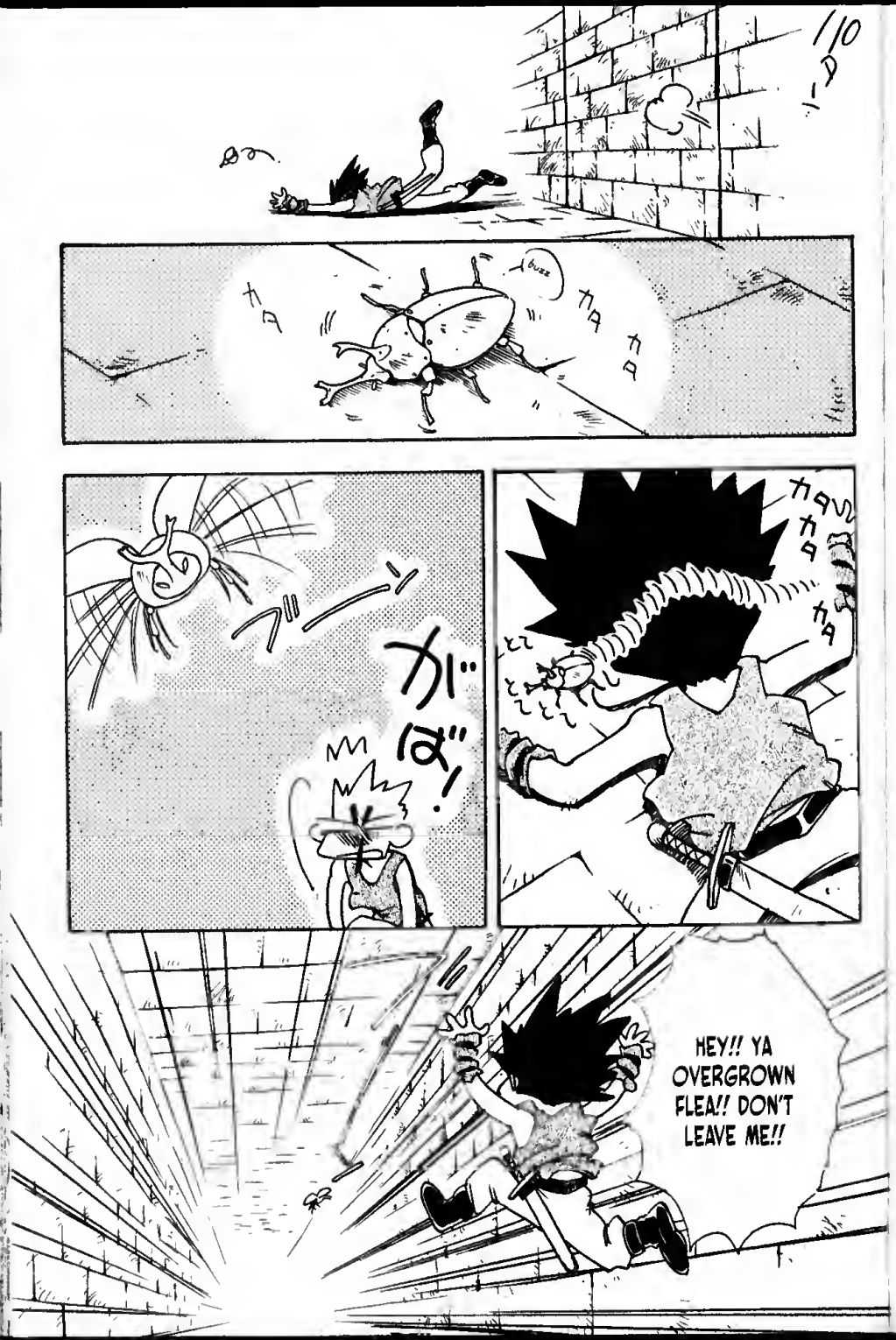
ひたひたひたひたひたひたひたひた
OH, IT'S YOU GUYS...! DON'T SCARE ME LIKE...
...TH-THAT...
ぴゅ

GRAAHH!!
OHOHOHOHOH!!


I DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE MET...

ME? WHY, I'M WOLFRIED, CHIEF OF THE WEREWOLF CLAN. I'M SORRY TO BE THE BARER OF BAD NEWS...

LET'S SEE WHAT YOU GOT, FURBALL.
...BUT YOU HAVE TO DIE!!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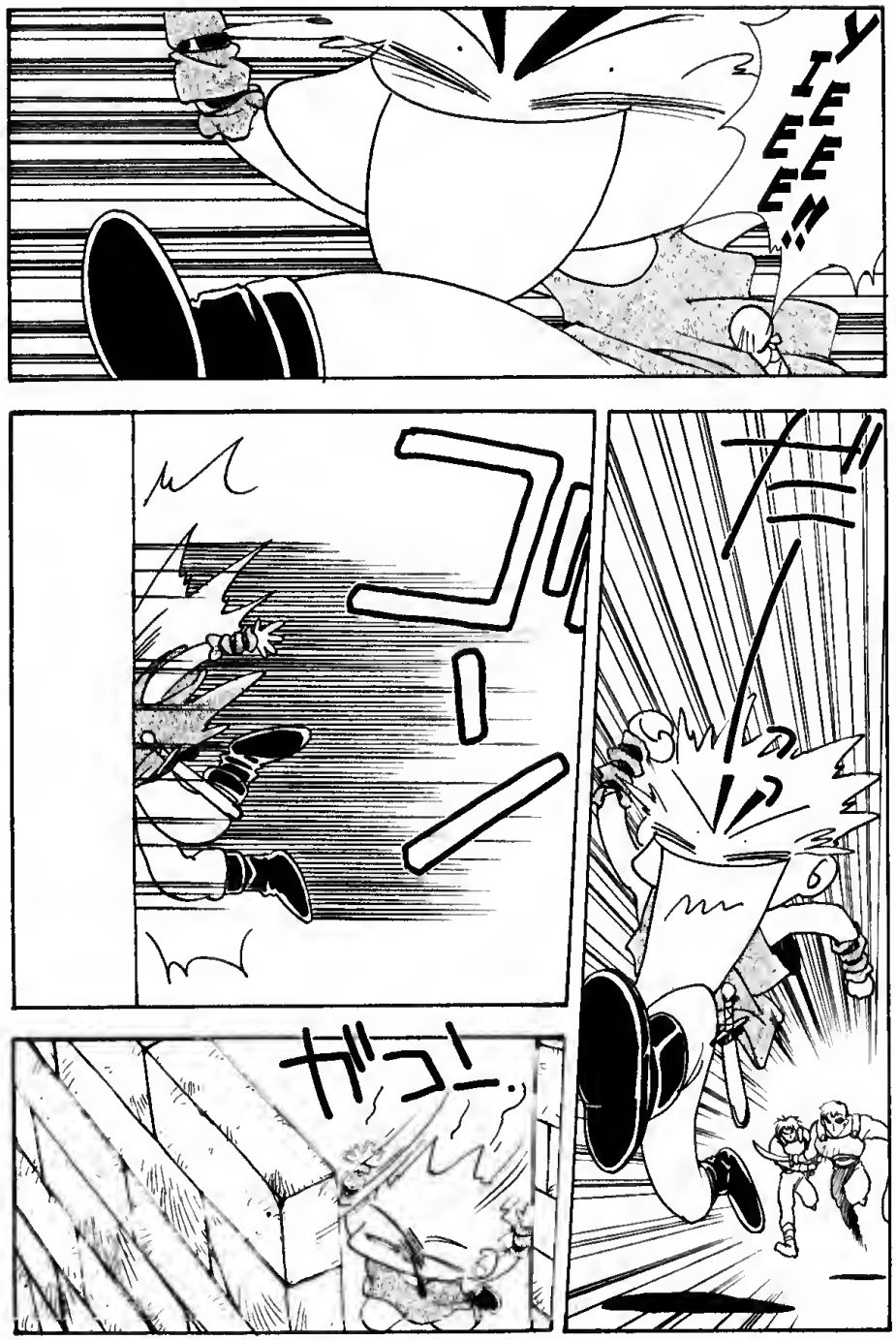
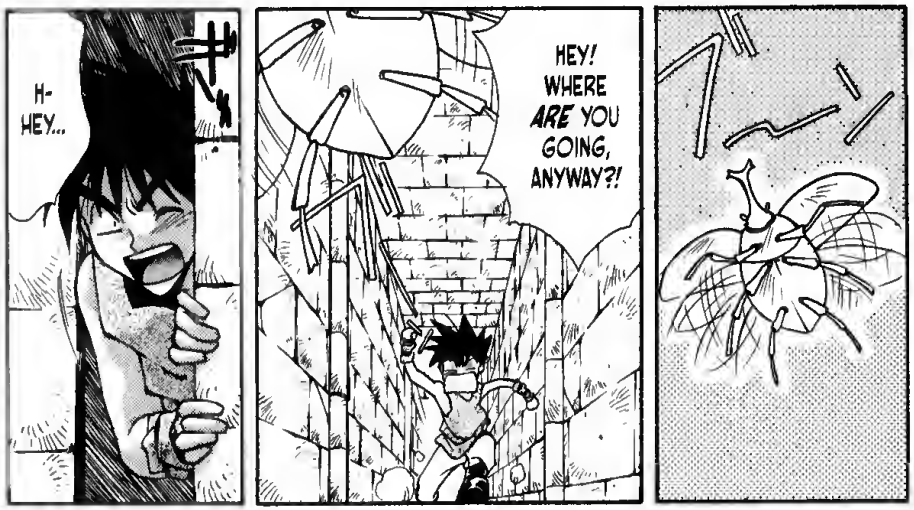
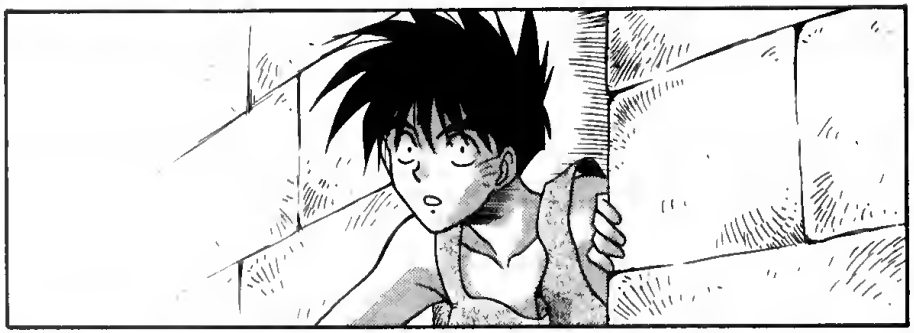
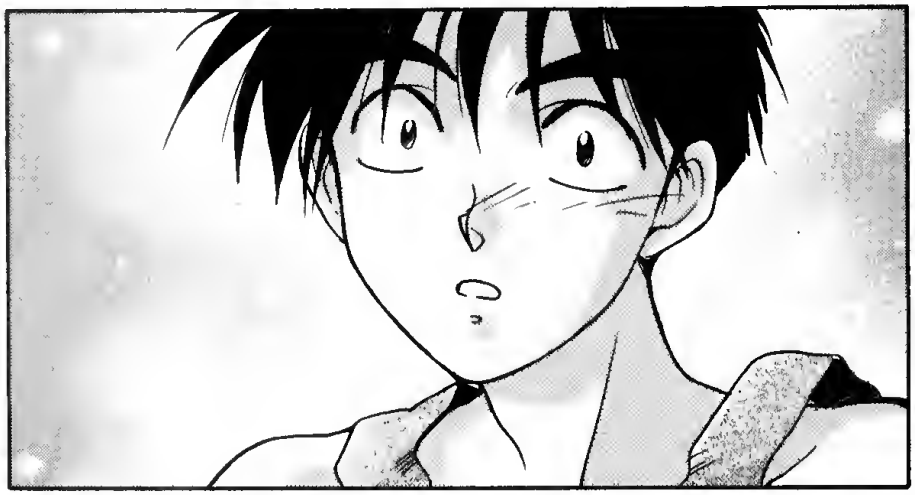
HEY!! YA OVERGROWN FLEA!! DON'T LEAVE ME!!

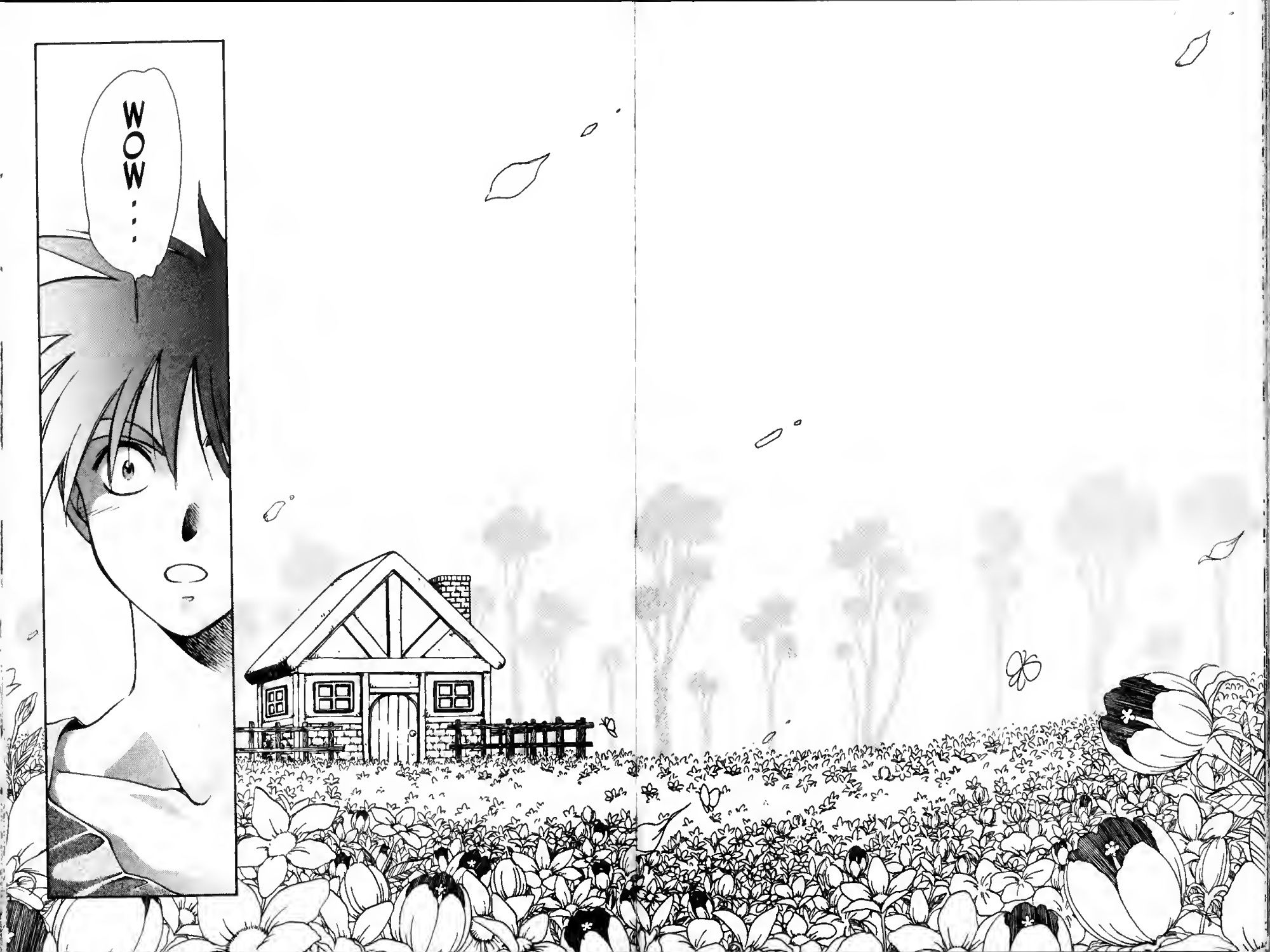

YEEE!!
ガコン

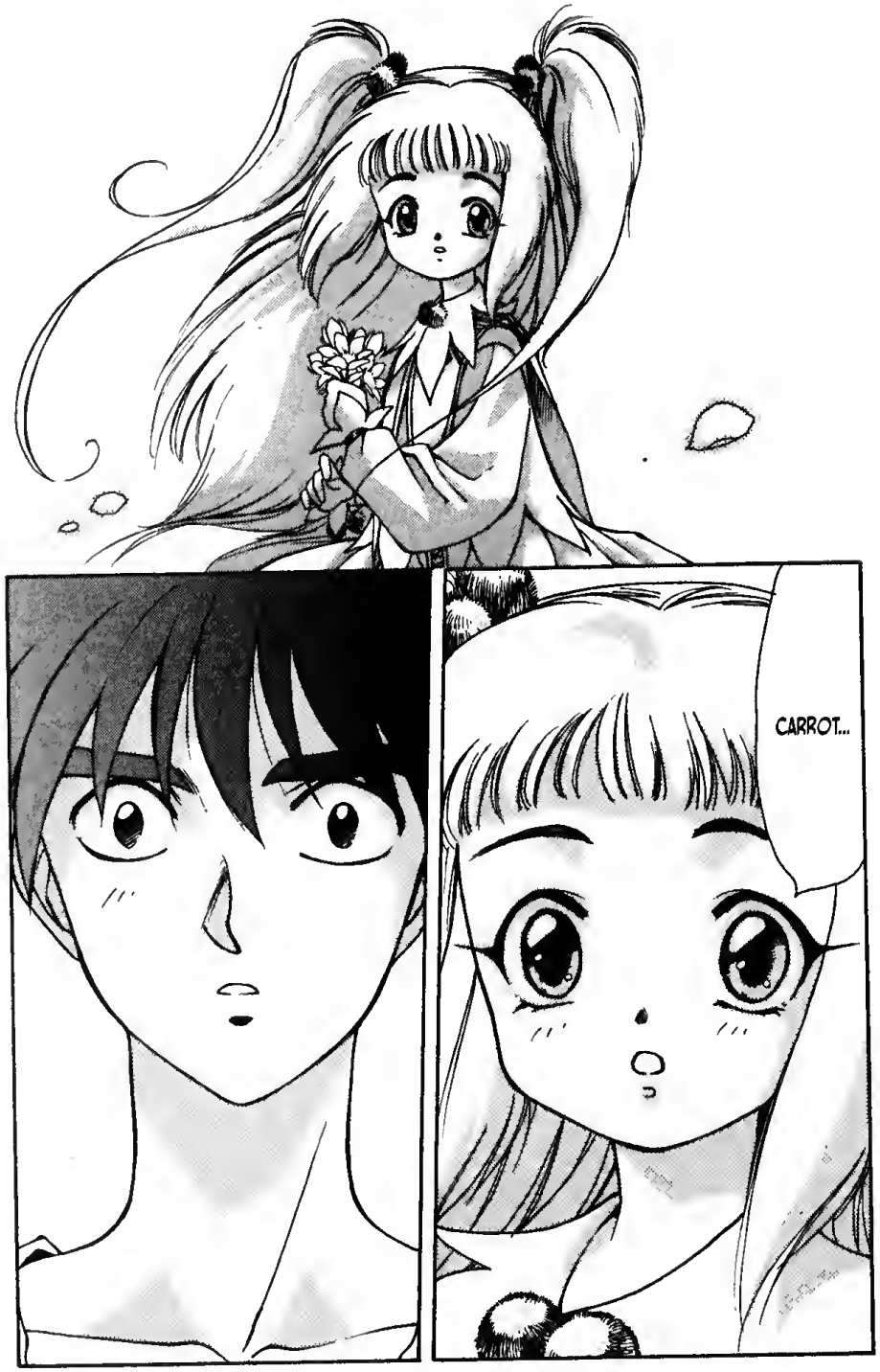

H-
HEY...
HEY! WHERE *ARE* YOU GOING, ANYWAY?!

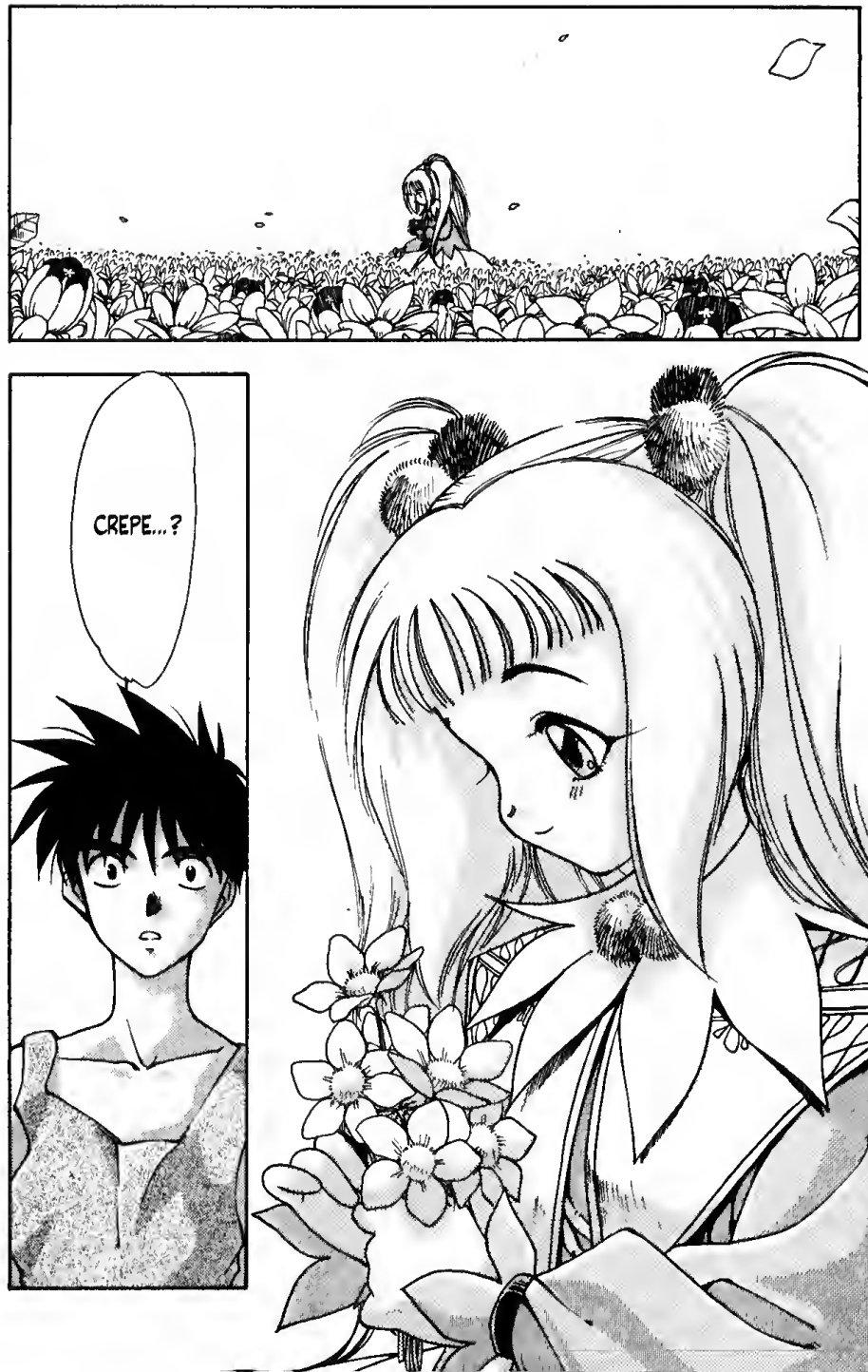


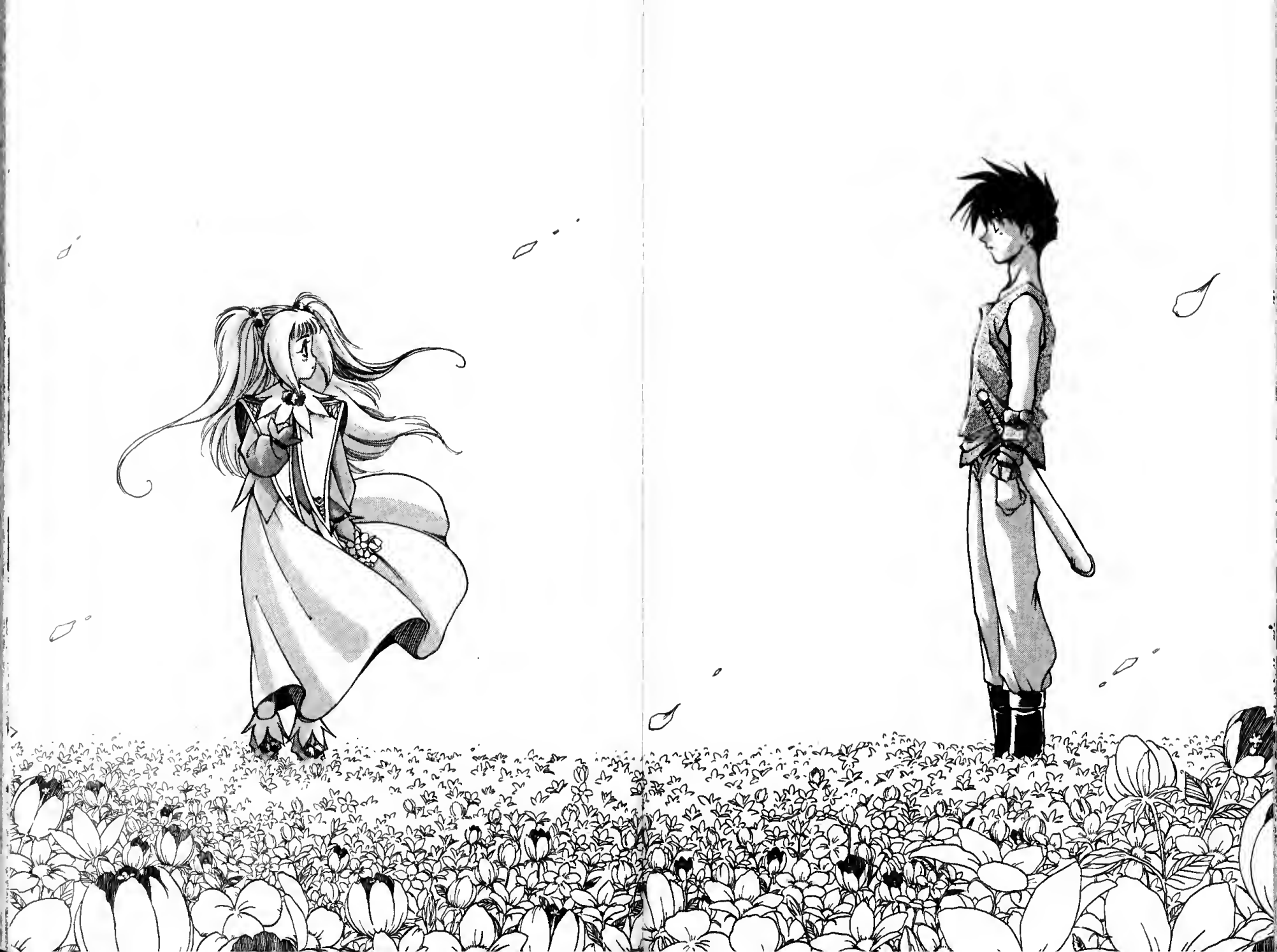


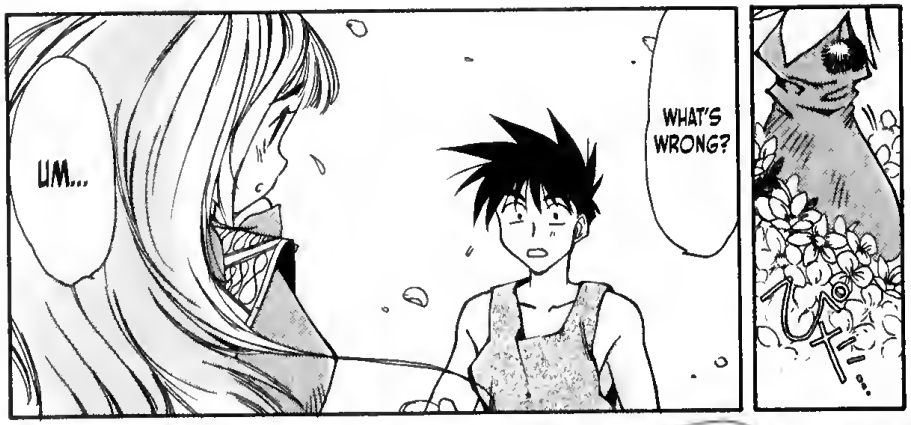
!

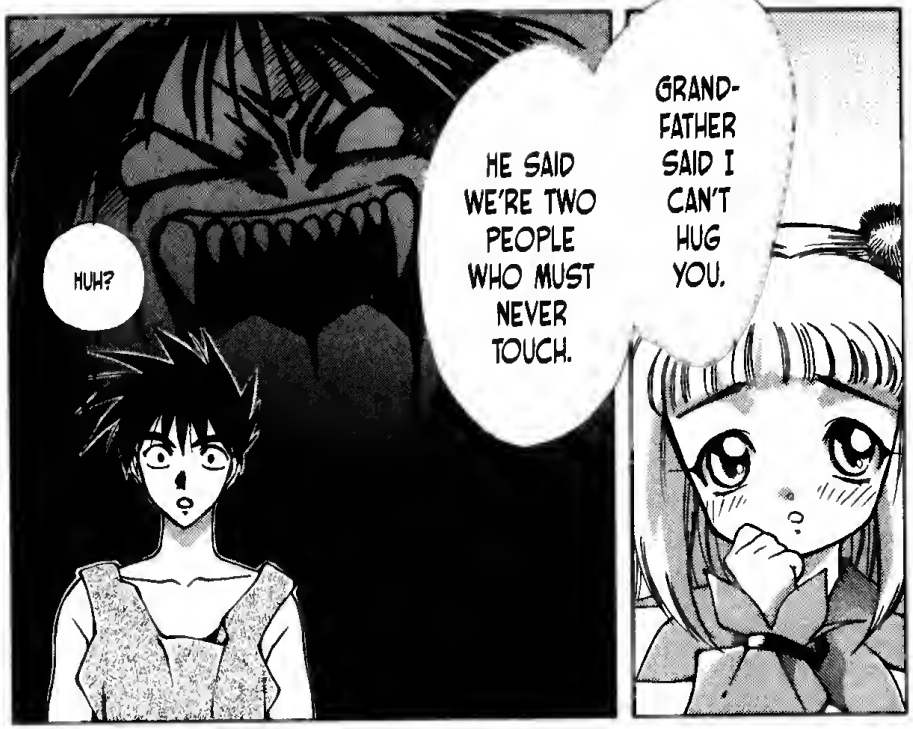

WOW...

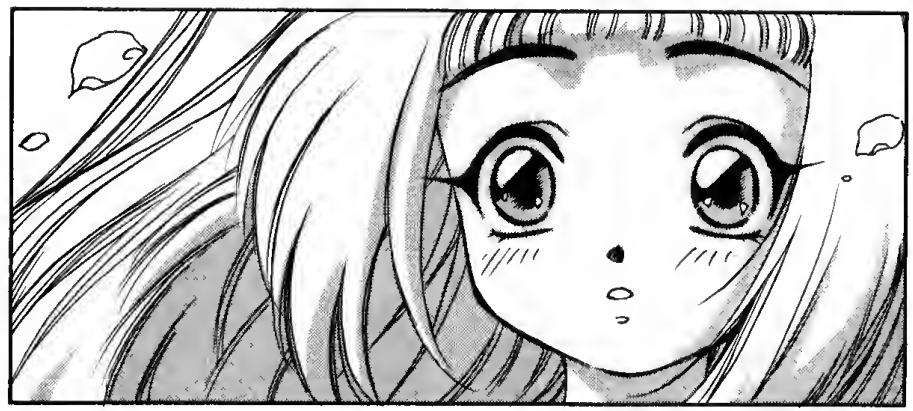

CARROT...

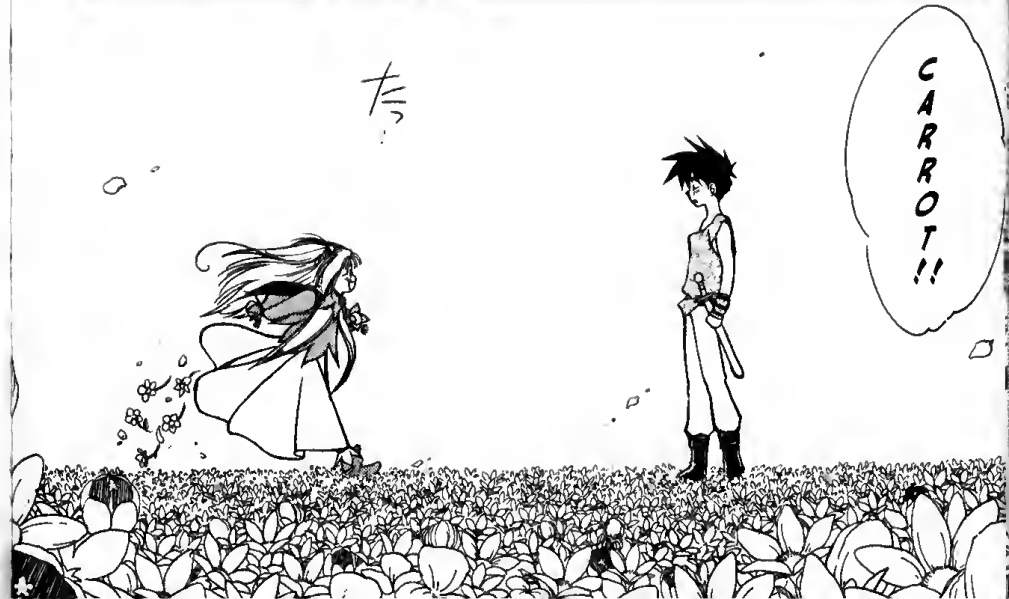

CREPE...?



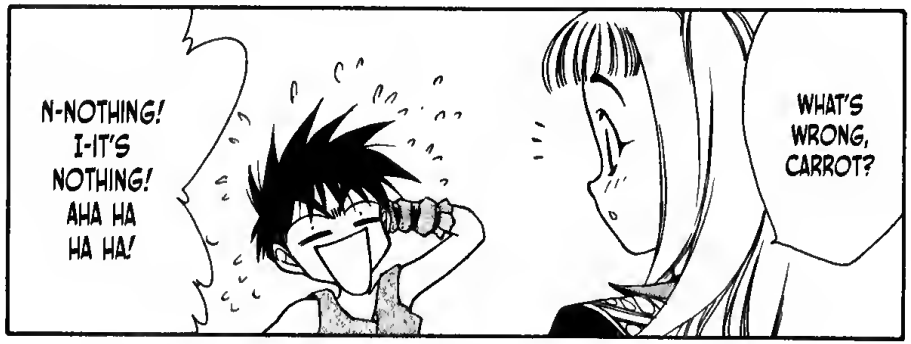

UM...
WHAT'S WRONG?

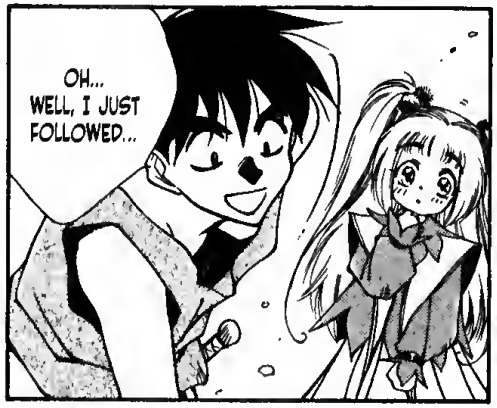

HUH?
HE SAID WE'RE TWO PEOPLE WHO MUST NEVER TOUCH.
GRAND-FATHER SAID I CAN'T HUG YOU.

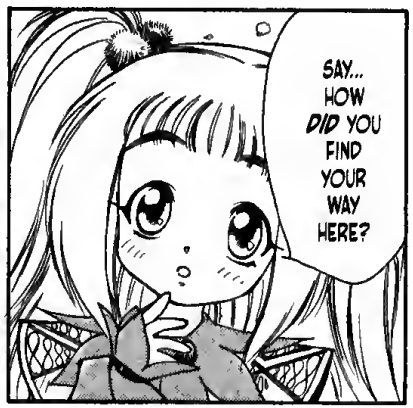


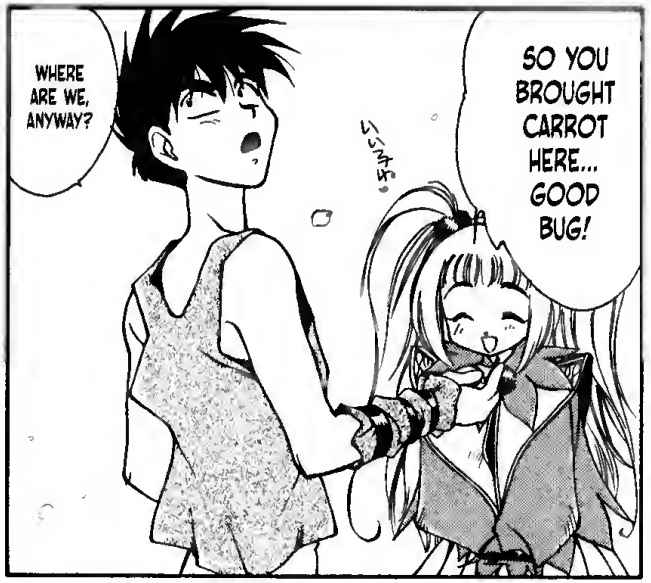

CARROT!!

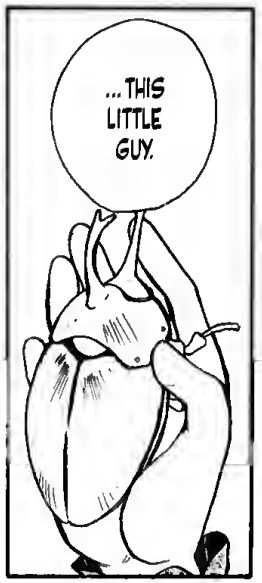
OH, ISN'T THIS WONDERFUL!
THIS IS OUR FIRST DATE, ISN'T IT?!
THIS IS THE CENTER OF KNOSSIS!
GRANDFATHER MADE THIS PLAYGROUND FOR ME!
L-LOVERS ?!
YOU AND I ARE LOVERS AFTER ALL!!

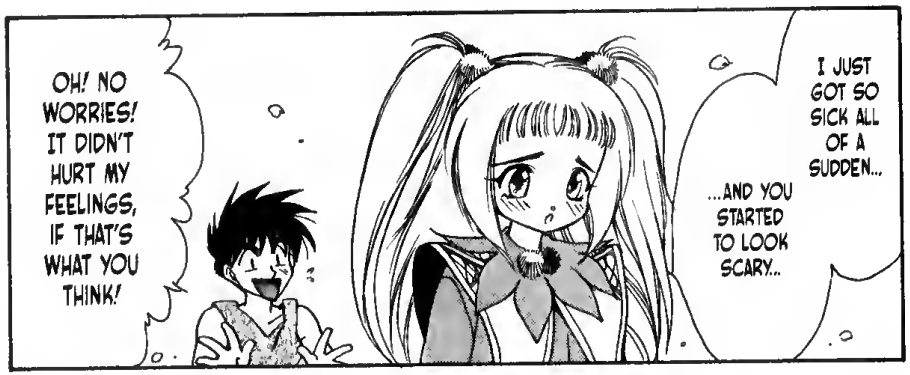

N-NOTHING! I-IT'S NOTHING! AHA HA HA HA!
WHAT'S WRONG, CARROT?

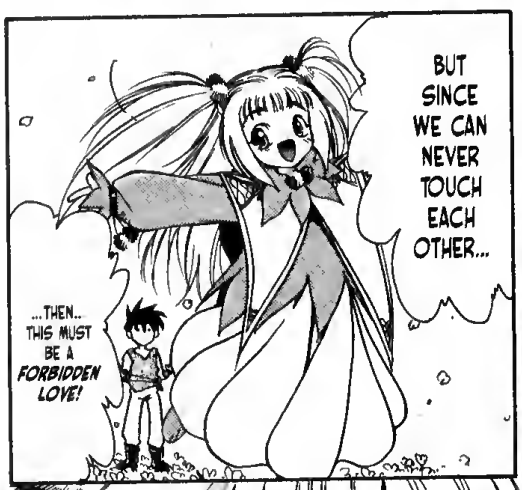

OH... WELL, I JUST FOLLOWED...

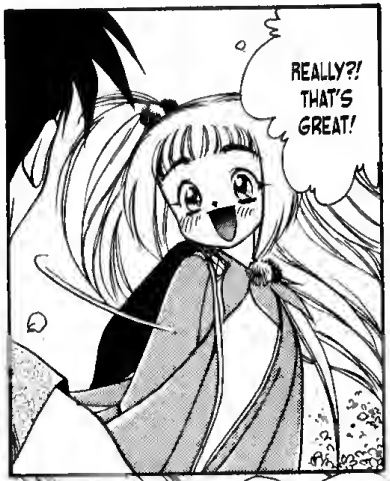

SAY... HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR WAY HERE?


WHERE ARE WE, ANYWAY?
SO YOU BROUGHT CARROT HERE... GOOD BUG!
SNIFF

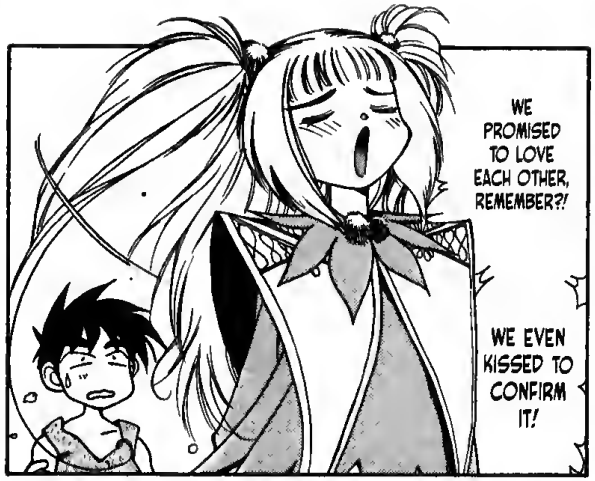

...THIS LITTLE GUY.


I JUST GOT SO SICK ALL OF A SUDDEN...
...AND YOU STARTED TO LOOK SCARY...
OH! NO WORRIES! IT DIDN'T HURT MY FEELINGS, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!

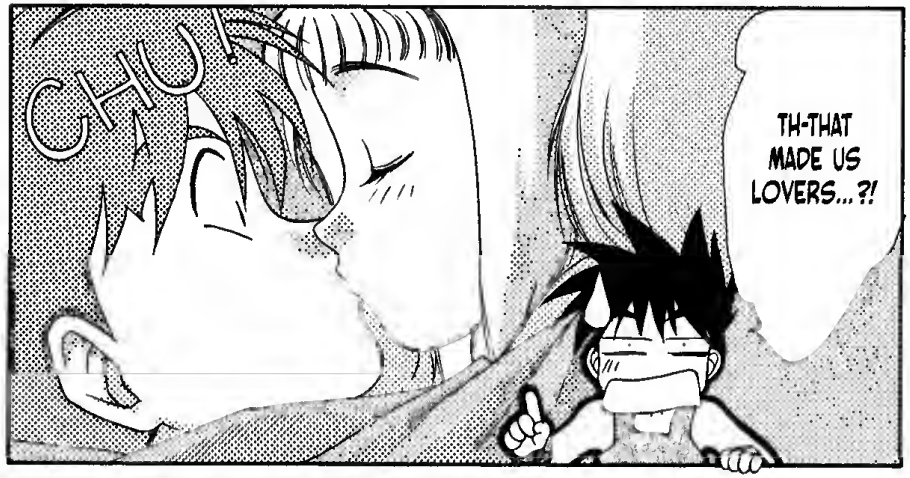

BUT SINCE WE CAN NEVER TOUCH EACH OTHER...
...THEN... THIS MUST BE A FORBIDDEN LOVE!

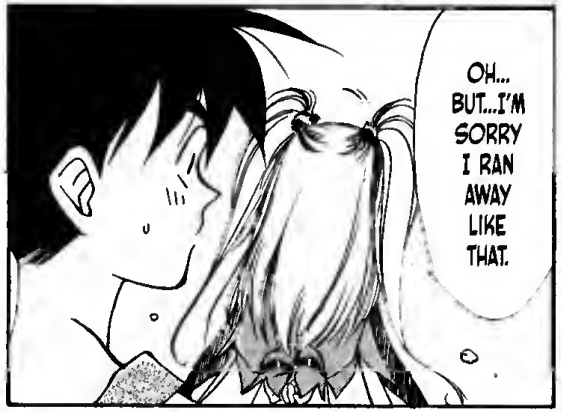

REALLY?! THAT'S GREAT!

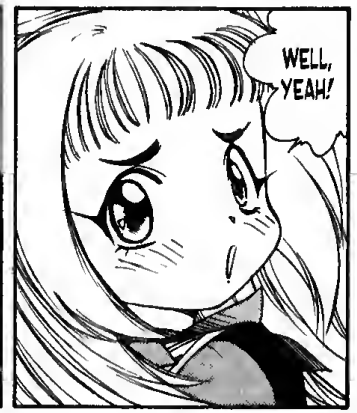
OOOH! MY FIRST LOVE IS A FORBIDDEN ONE! HOW SCANDALOUS!
I'M SO EXCITED!!

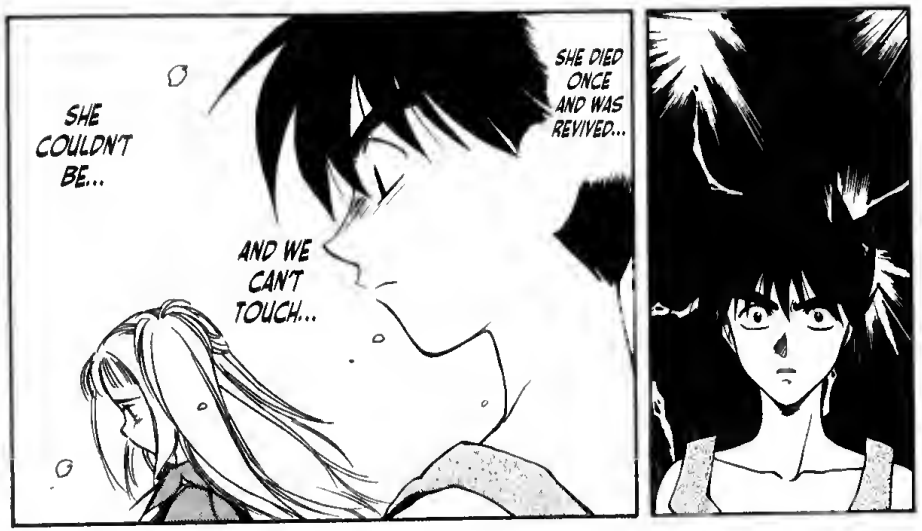

WE PROMISED TO LOVE EACH OTHER, REMEMBER?!
WE EVEN KISSED TO CONFIRM IT!

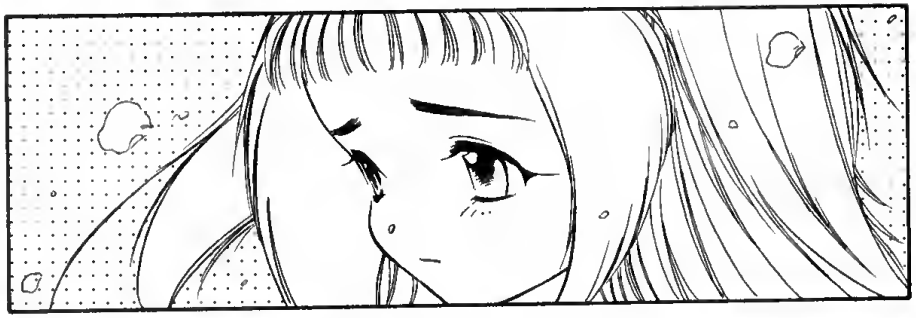
WHAT?! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ALREADY?!

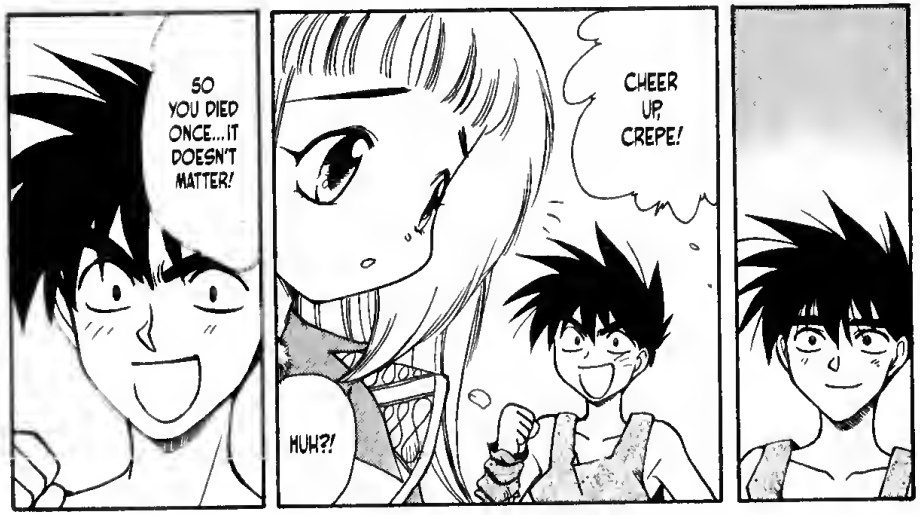

CHU
TH-THAT MADE US LOVERS...?!


OH... BUT...I'M SORRY I RAN AWAY LIKE THAT.

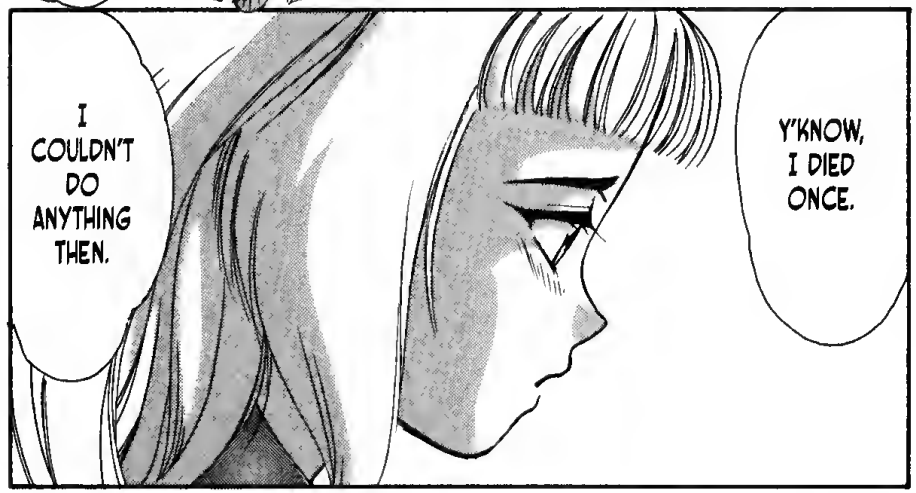

WELL, YEAH!

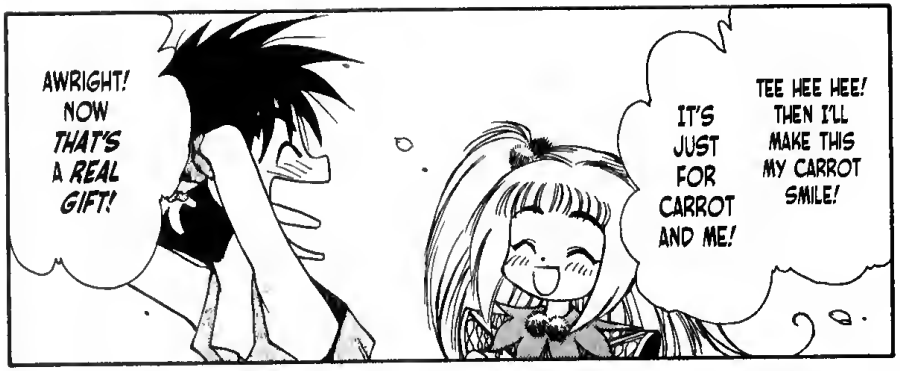

SHE COULDN'T BE...
SHE DIED ONCE AND WAS REVIVED...
AND WE CAN'T TOUCH...

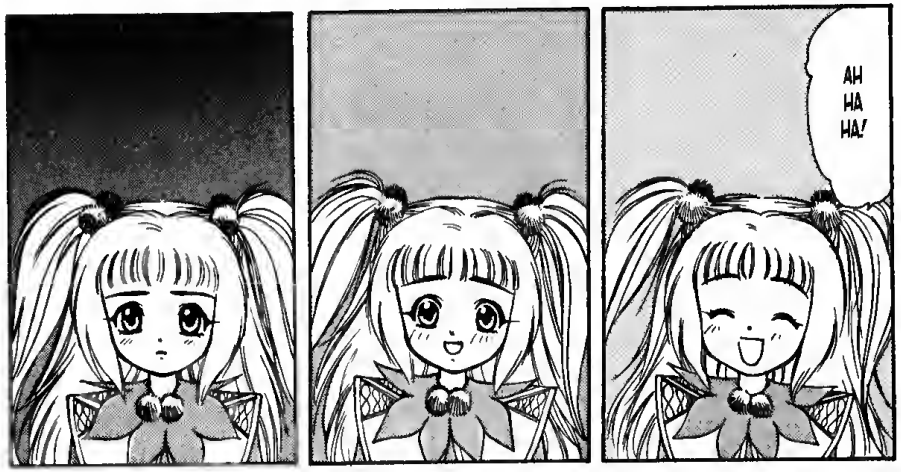


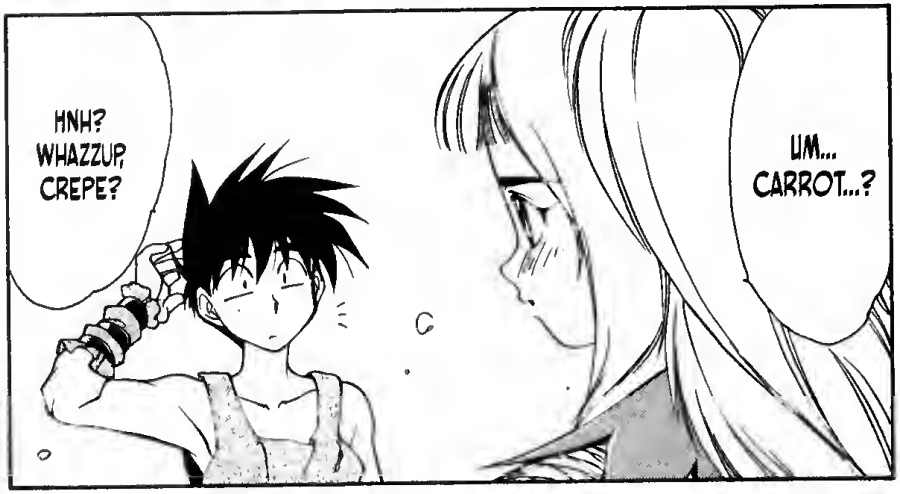

SO YOU DIED ONCE... IT DOESN'T MATTER!
CHEER UP, CREPE!
HUH?!

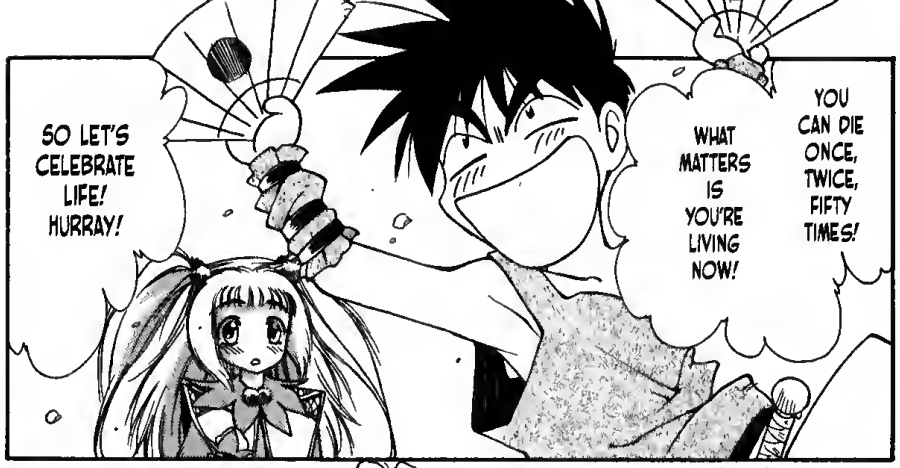
I KNOW! BUT IT'S JUST SO MUCH FUN TO BE ALIVE!
MAN... YOU SURE ARE EASILY EXCITED, CREPE.
I LOVE ALL OF IT!
I CAN PICK FLOWERS! I CAN COOK!
I CAN RUN AROUND!


I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING THEN.
Y'KNOW, I DIED ONCE.


AWRIGHT! NOW THAT'S A REAL GIFT!
IT'S JUST FOR CARROT AND ME!
TEE HEE HEE! THEN I'LL MAKE THIS MY CARROT SMILE!


AH HA HA!


HNH? WHAZZUP, CREPE?
UM... CARROT...?


SO LET'S CELEBRATE LIFE! HURRAY!
WHAT MATTERS IS YOU'RE LIVING NOW!
YOU CAN DIE ONCE, TWICE, FIFTY TIMES!

YEAH! YOU FINALLY SMILED!
YOU LOOK THE BEST WHEN YOU'RE SMILING!
OKAY!

...

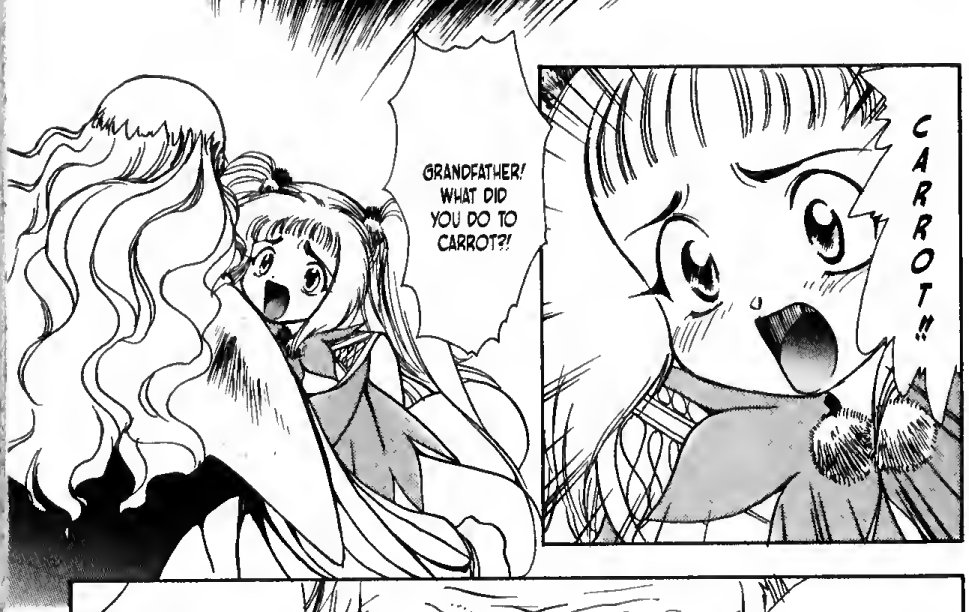
I THINK I'M STARTING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE SOMEONE.

UNH!
WHAT THE...!!

WHITE TIGER DANCE !!

ヒュッ!!
ズバッ!!

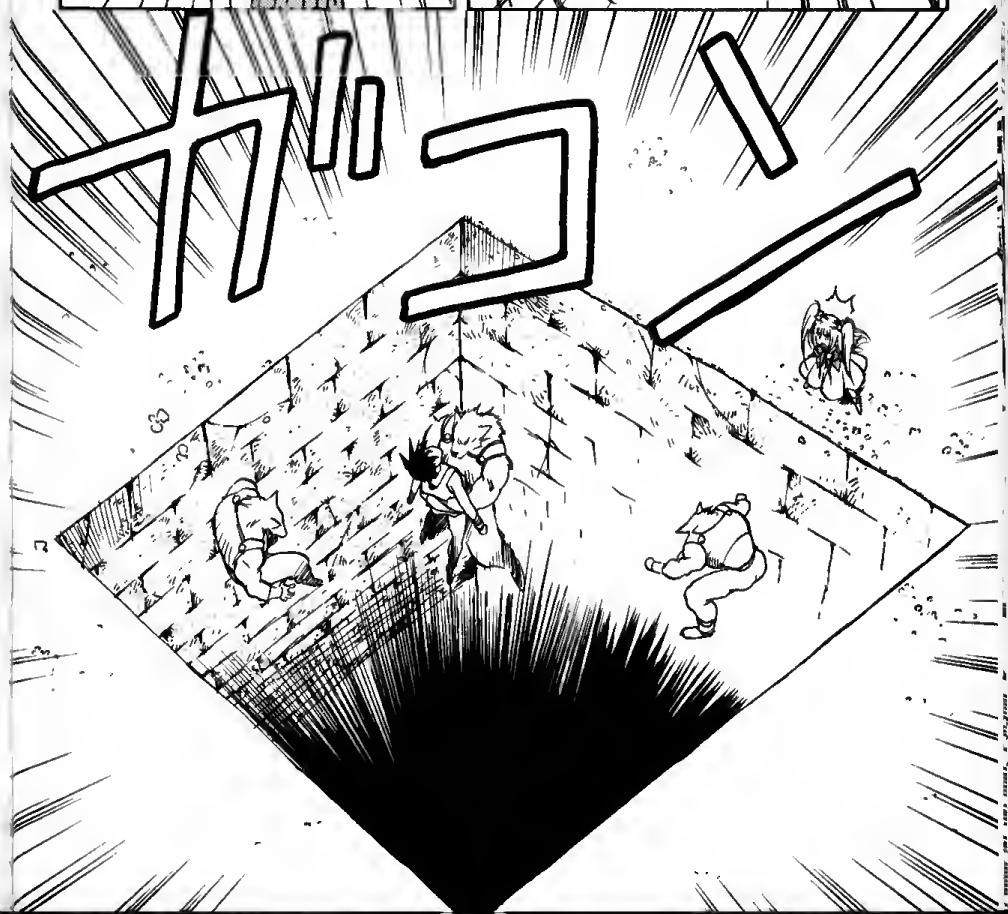
GIVING MY LIFE... TO PROTEC... A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN...
THAT'S SO LIKE ME... HEH...
YAAAAHH!!
CARROT!!
CREPE!! NO!!


GRANDFATHER! WHAT DID YOU DO TO CARROT?!
CARROT!!

THE TWO OF YOU CAN NEVER TOUCH EACH OTHER!
CREPE! I TOLD YOU NOT TO GET CLOSE TO THAT MAN!
THAT MAN IS LIKE THE ANGEL OF DEATH TO YOU!

I LIKE CARROT!!
B-BUT...
...CARROT WAS NICE TO ME!!

DON'T TOUCH THAT MAN!!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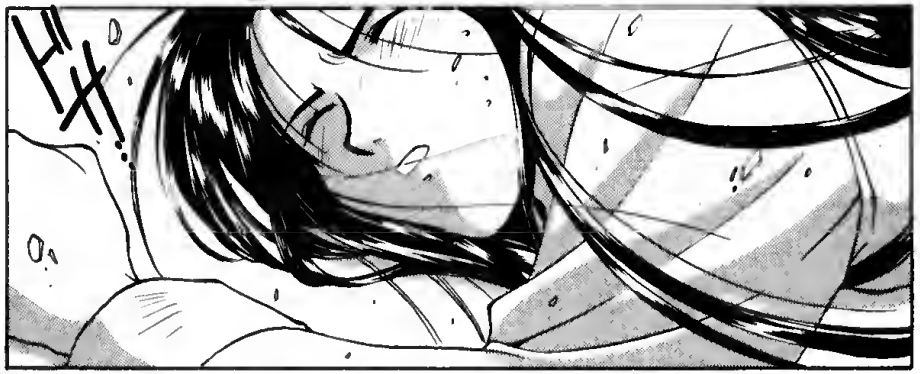
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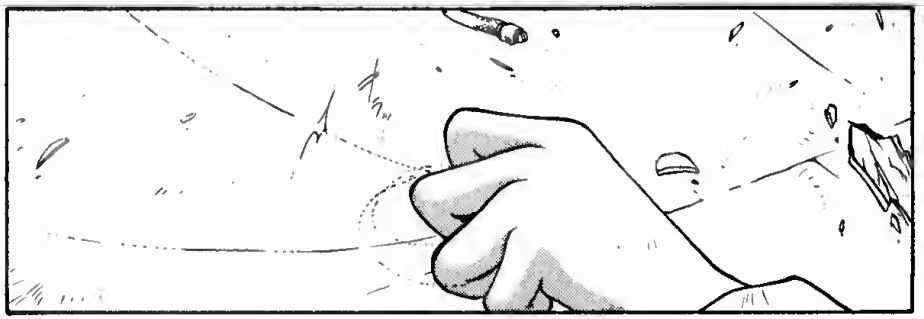

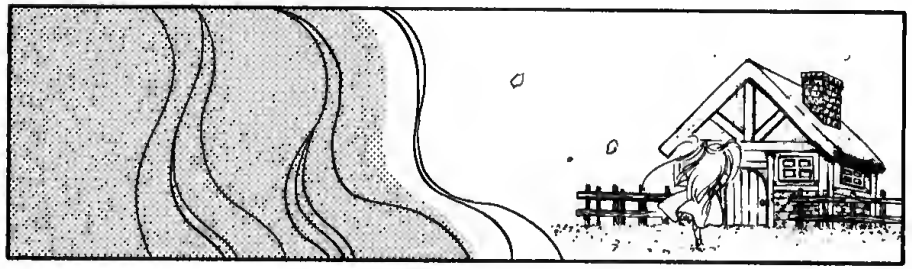

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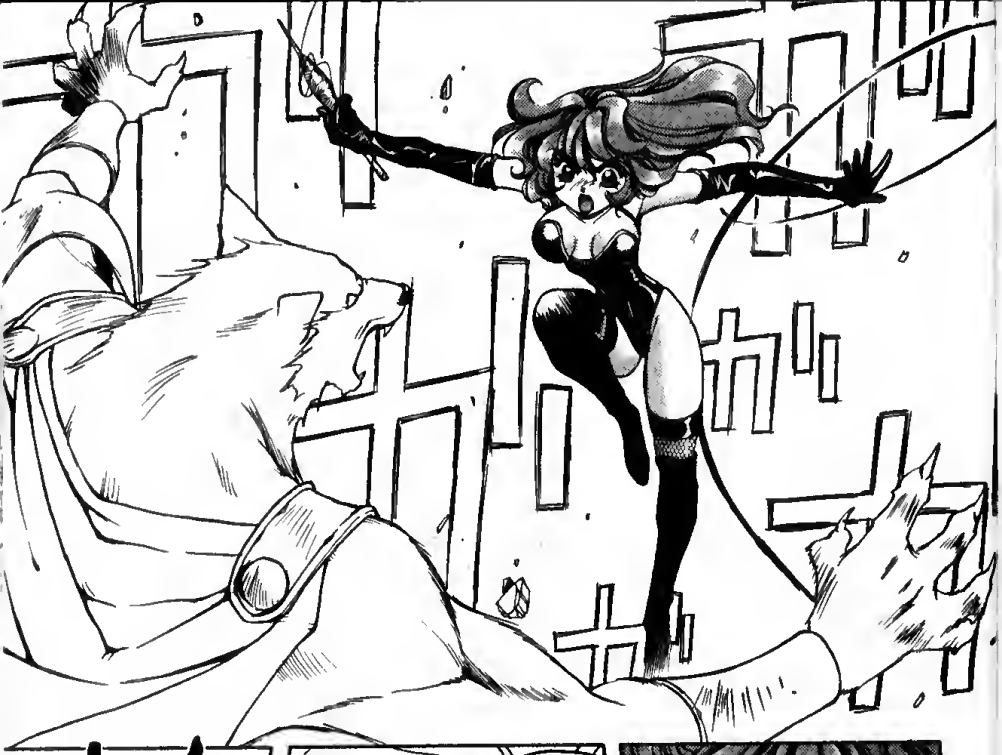
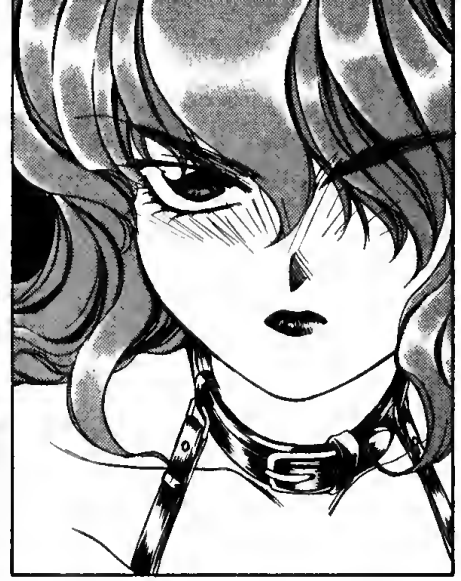
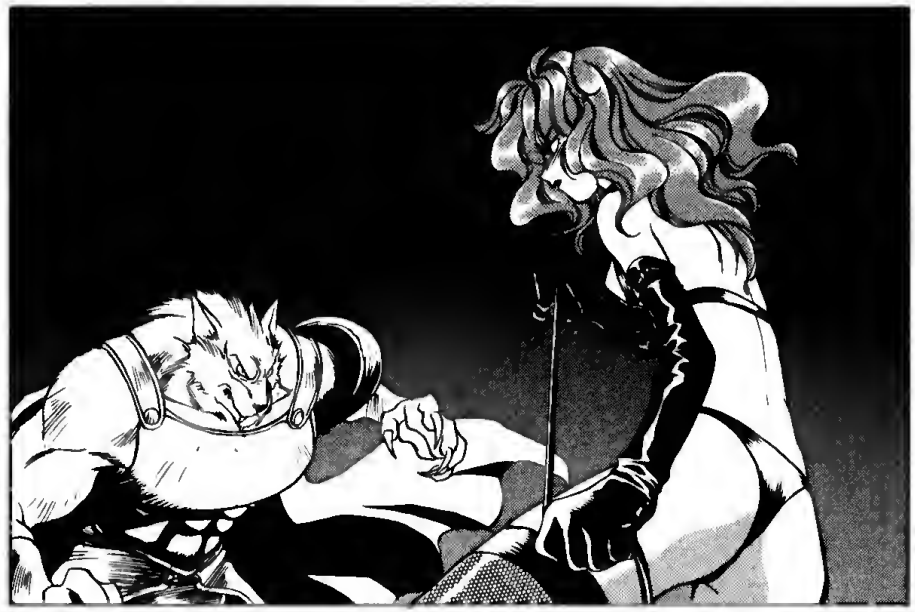
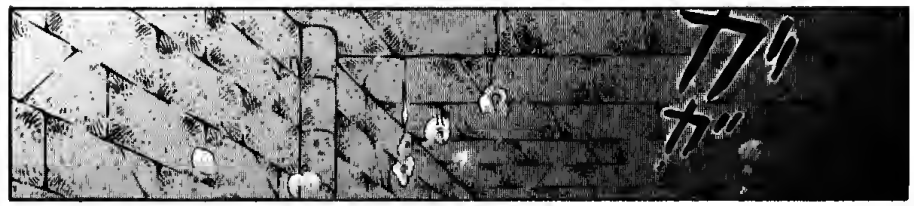
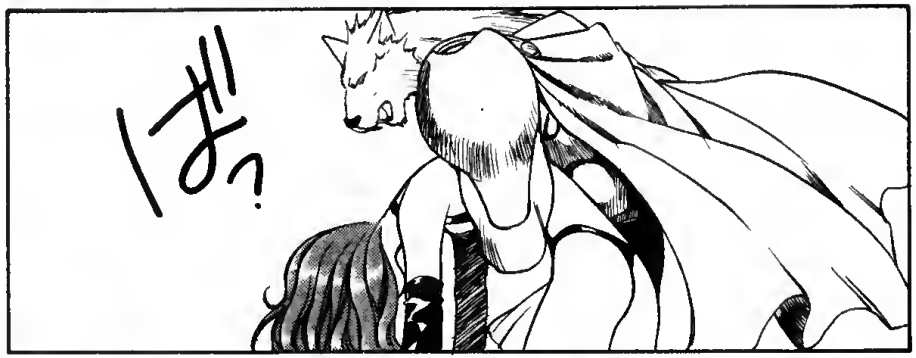
ビリリ
WHITE TIGER THUNDER RING!!










ぼっ?

NO...!!

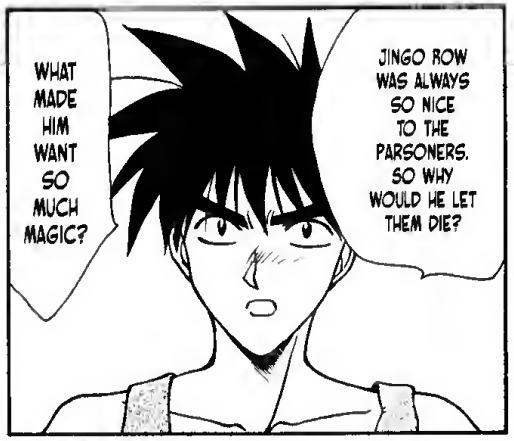
I REMEMBER... I FELL INTO THAT HOLE...
..AND CAME OUT HERE.
GEEZ! YOU NEED A BABYSITTER!

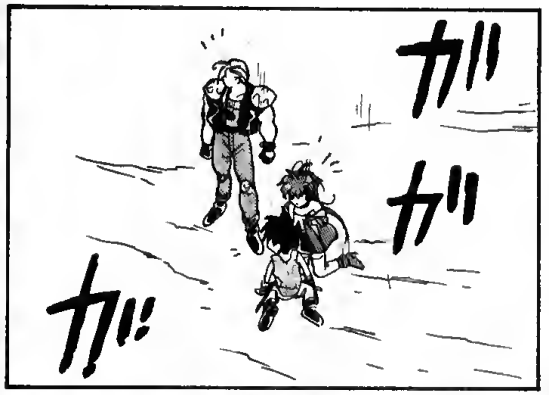
I'M... OUTSIDE THE LABYRINTH...?!

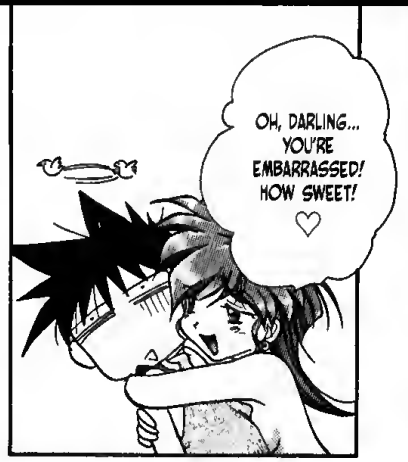
SIGH...I DO HATE SAVING UGLY GUYS.
ガガトー!!
G-GATEAU...? HOLD ON... IF YOU'RE HERE, THAT MEANS...?
YOO-HOO!! DARLING!! ♡
I MISSED YOU SO!! ♡
KNOCK IT OFF, CHOCOLAT!
ぐぇぇぇ
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE SAFE, DARLING!
BEFORE YOU FACE ANYMORE DANGER...
...LET'S MAKE A BABY!!
WE CAN DO IT RIGHT HERE, IF YOU WANT!!
GET OFF ME, YOU FREAK!!
N o o o !!

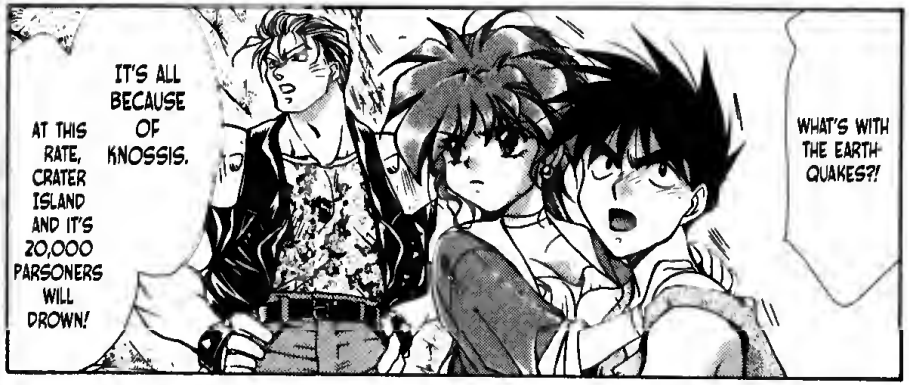
CRATER ISLAND'S FOUNDATION WILL BE DESTROYED, AND IT WILL SINK INTO THE SEA.
THE GREAT CONCENTRATION OF MAGIC IT CREATES DISRUPTS THE BALANCE OF NATURE IN THE SURROUNDING AREA.

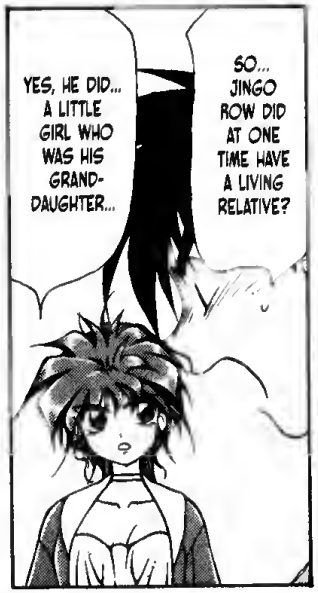
ONLY KNOSSIS, BEING BUILT ON HIGH GROUND, WILL REMAIN.









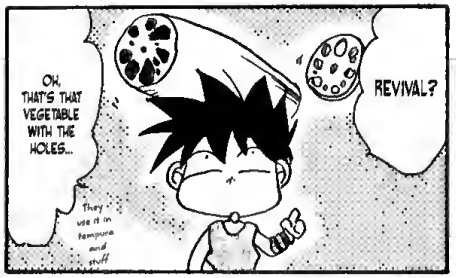

SO... JINGO ROW DID AT ONE TIME HAVE A LIVING RELATIVE?
YES, HE DID... A LITTLE GIRL WHO WAS HIS GRAND-DAUGHTER...

IT SEEMS SHE DIED ONE YEAR AGO FROM THE GREEN DEATH.
SHE WAS SO YOUNG, TOO...

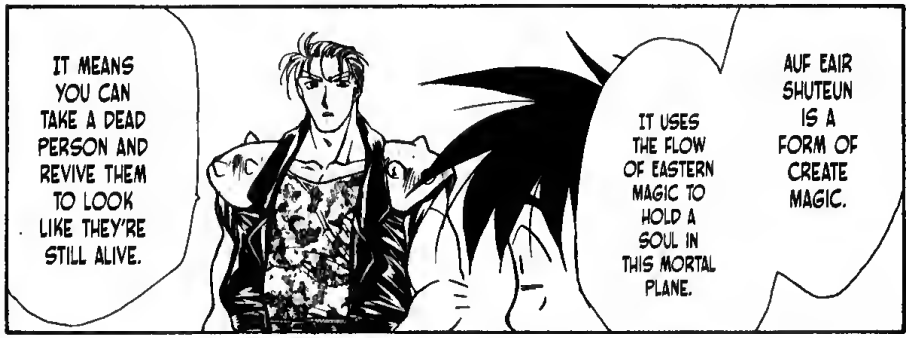
HER NAME WAS...
...
CREPE!

SPECIFICALLY THE REVIVAL SPELL HANDED DOWN THROUGH THE POISSON HOUSEHOLD...
...CALLED AUF EAIR SHUTEUN!

THAT'S RENKON, NIMBWIT!


REVIVAL?
OH, THAT'S THAT VEGETABLE WITH THE HOLES...
They use it in tempura and stuff

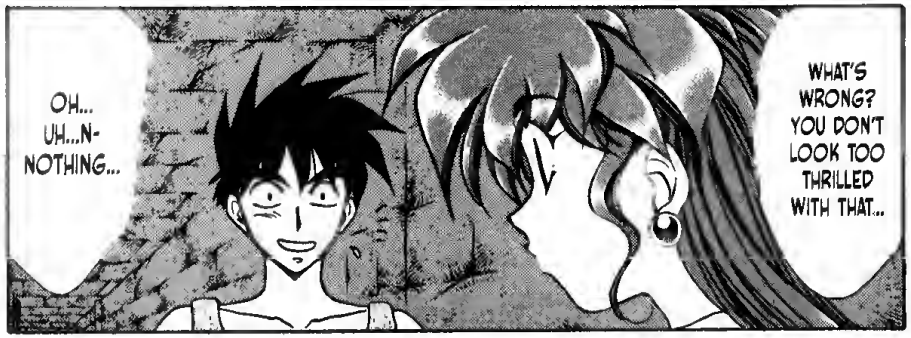
stop it already Darling!
Then
That manu-script!
You're nowhere near right!
It's impossible! I'll never finish in time!
That's rebellion!
Huh! Why should I listen to my parents!
That's a receipt!
Ma-am, special delivery!

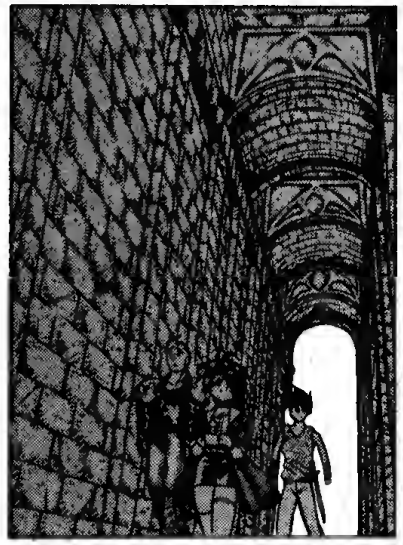

IT MEANS YOU CAN TAKE A DEAD PERSON AND REVIVE THEM TO LOOK LIKE THEY'RE STILL ALIVE.
IT USES THE FLOW OF EASTERN MAGIC TO HOLD A SOUL IN THIS MORTAL PLANE.
AUF EAIR SHUTEUN IS A FORM OF CREATE MAGIC.

DUDE--IS THAT DOLL BROKEN OR SOMETHIN'?! THAT'S A FREAKIN' WALL!!

NO, SHOULD IT?
SOOO... THAT DOESN'T HURT YOUR HAND AT ALL, HUH?
NEVER MIND. I WAS STUPID TO ASK.

AFTER THAT, IT'S YOUR TURN, DARLING!
ANYWAY, WE HAVE TO SEAL AWAY THAT FORBIDDEN SPELL FIRST!
HUH?


OH... UH...N-NOTHING...
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU DON'T LOOK TOO THRILLED WITH THAT...



That way!
That way!

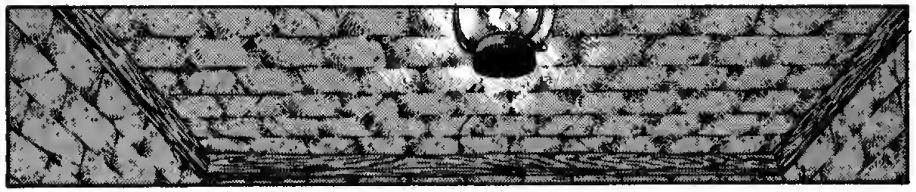
That way!

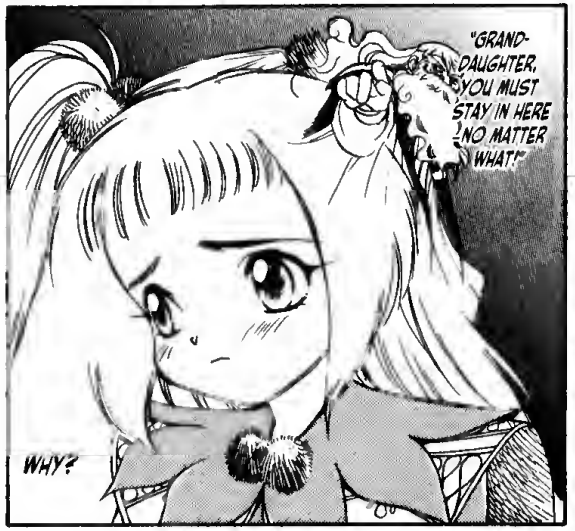
Who just hit me?!

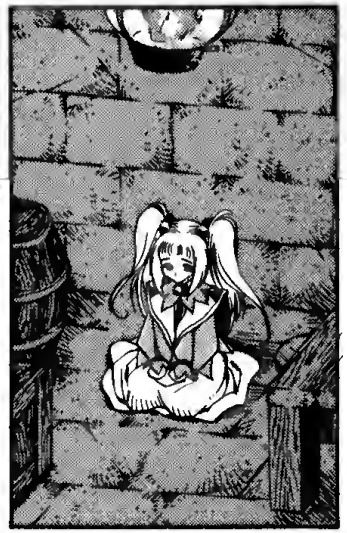
CREPE...
ガラ?
WELCOME.

NOW ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE REST OF YOUR EXECUTIONERS...

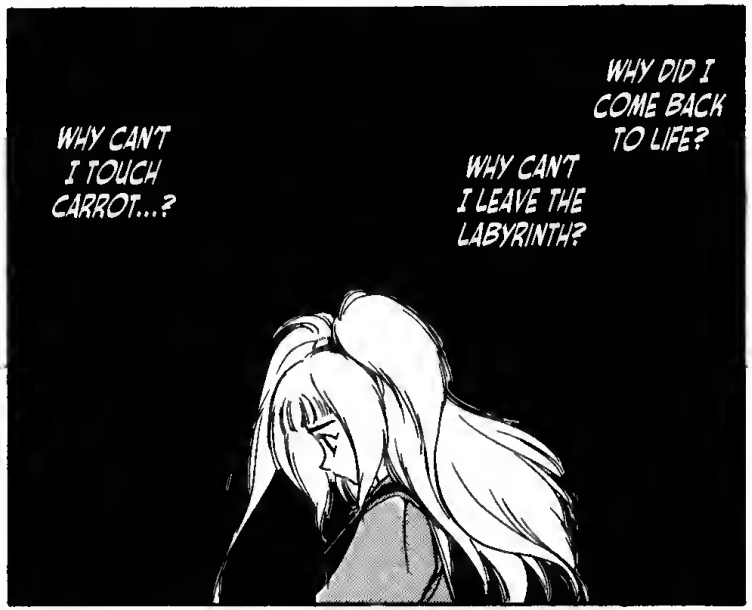
WHAT DO YOU THINK, SORCERER HUNTERS?!
DO YOU LIKE MY LITTLE HELPER, HMM? HEH HEH HEH...
SITCKS AND STONES MY SOON TO BE DEAD HUNTER! STICK AND STONES!
YOU CREEP! I'LL KNOCK THE LIPSTICK RIGHT OFF YER FACE!

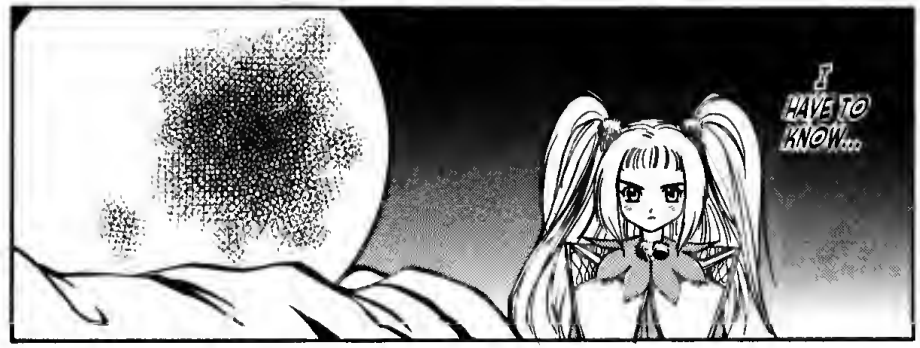


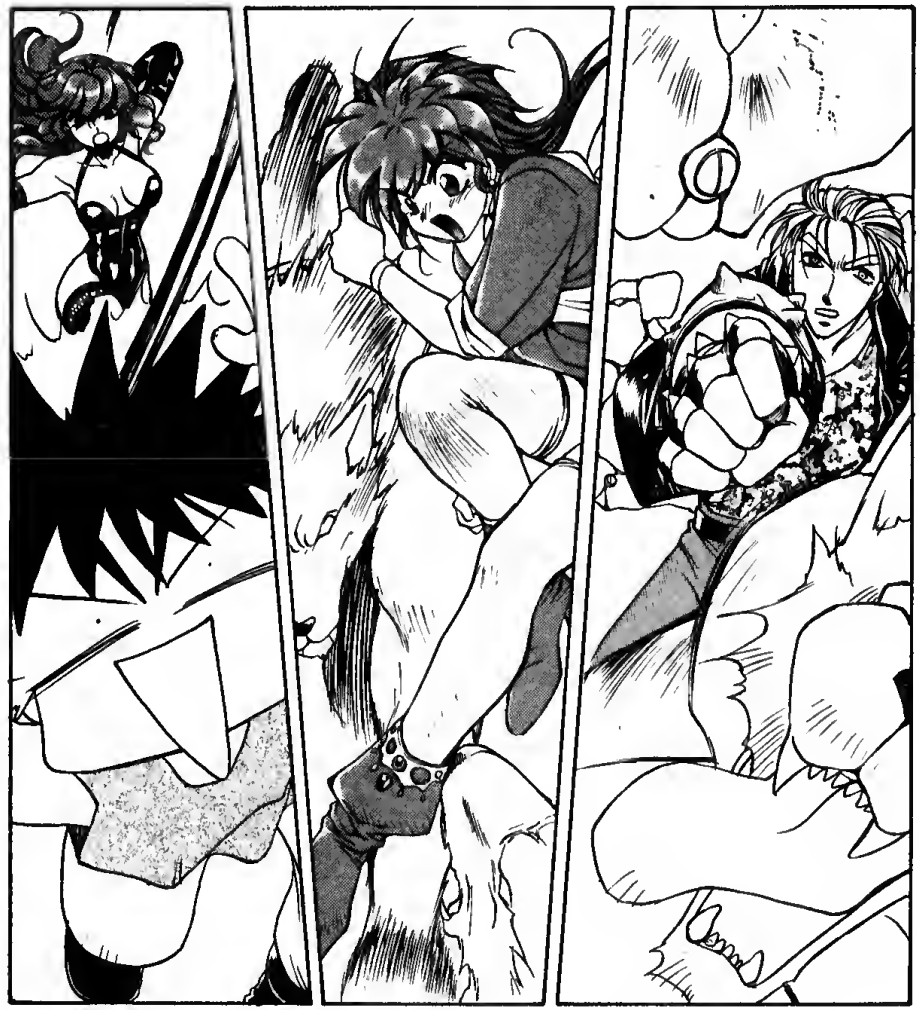

"GRAND-DAUGHTER, YOU MUST STAY IN HERE NO MATTER WHAT!"
WHY?

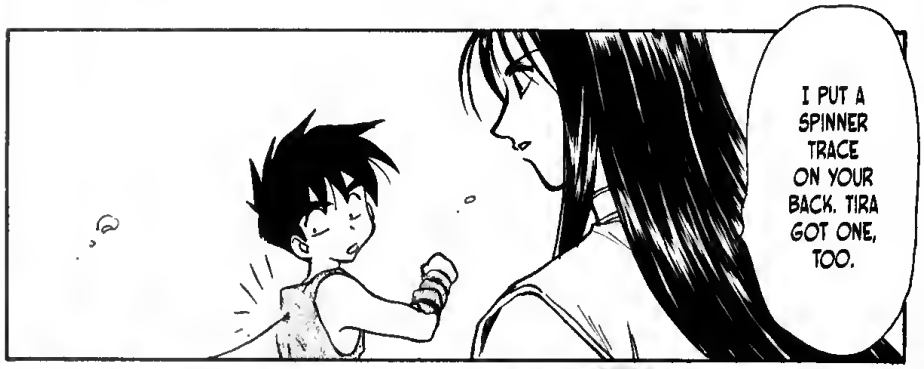


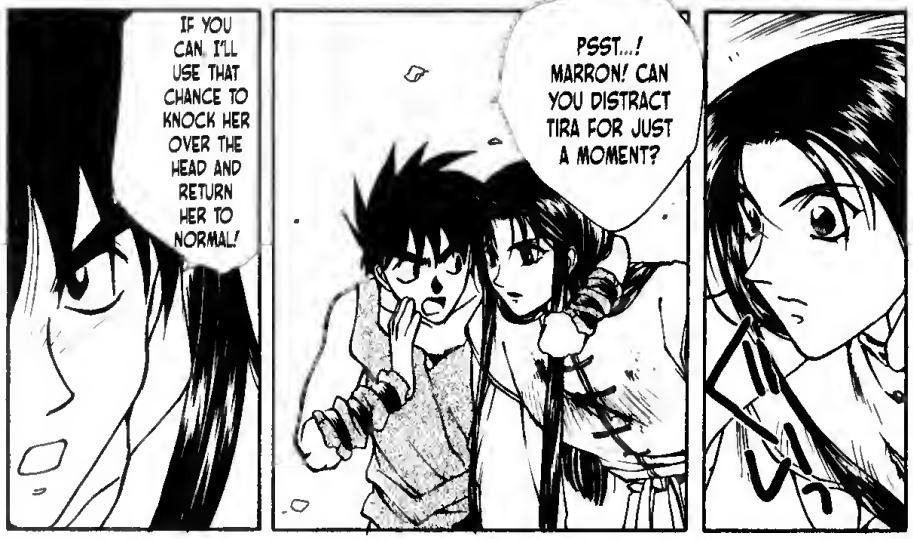
I...


WHY CAN'T I TOUCH CARROT...?
WHY CAN'T I LEAVE THE LABYRINTH?
WHY DID I COME BACK TO LIFE?

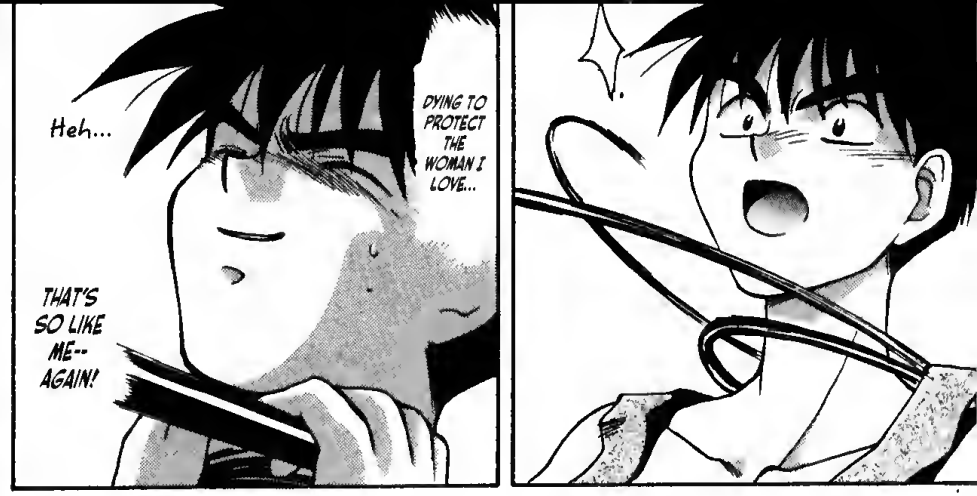

I
HAVE TO
KNOW...




I PUT A SPINNER TRACE ON YOUR BACK. TIRA GOT ONE, TOO.


IF YOU CAN, I'LL USE THAT CHANCE TO KNOCK HER OVER THE HEAD AND RETURN HER TO NORMAL!
PSST...! MARRON! CAN YOU DISTRACT TIRA FOR JUST A MOMENT?

KINDA LIKE SHOCK THERAPY, EH?
YOU GOT IT!

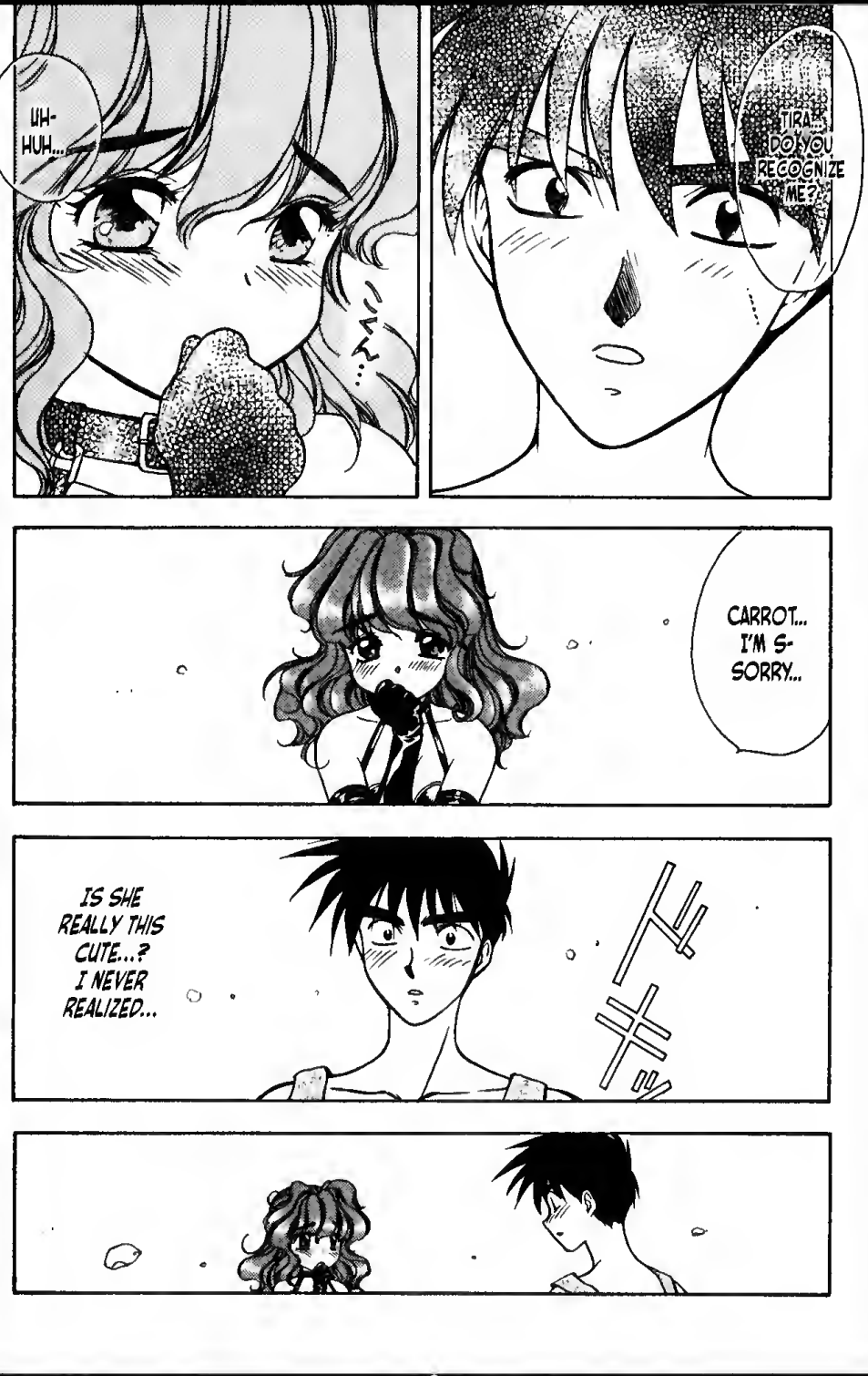

Heh...
DYING TO PROTECT THE WOMAN I LOVE...
THAT'S SO LIKE ME-- AGAIN!

BROTHER!!
M-MARRON...? HOW DID YOU...?

NOW!!
HUH?!

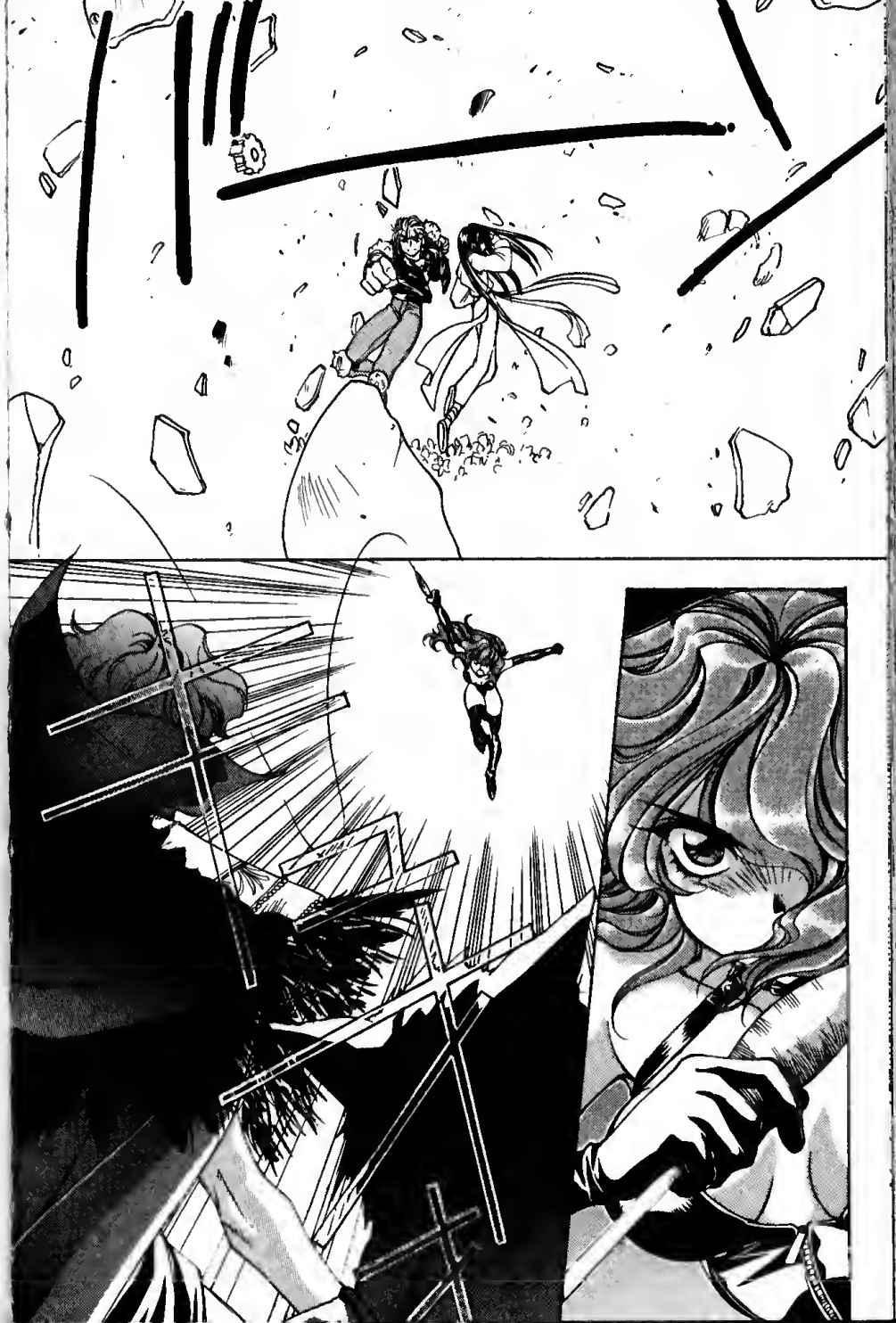
?!
CARROT...
Y-YOU... KISS BANDIT!!

ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE US ALL THROW UP, OR WHAT?!
GAAH! ENOUGH, ALREADY!
HEH HEH HEH HEH...
LOOK AT YOU... YOU'RE ALL WORN OUT.
ALL THE BETTER FOR ME TO KILL YOU AT MY LEISURE!
THAT'S RIGHT! CRY! WAIL! GET DOWN ON YOU KNEES AND BEG FOR YOUR LIVES!
HO HO HO HO HO!!
AHA HA HA HA HA HA!! YOU IDIOT!!
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THE TRUE POWER OF THE SORCERER HUNTERS...!
SO ALLOW ME TO EDUCATE YOU!!


UH-HUH...
TIRA... DO YOU RECOGNIZE ME?
CARROT... I'M S-SORRY...
IS SHE REALLY THIS CUTE...? I NEVER REALIZED...

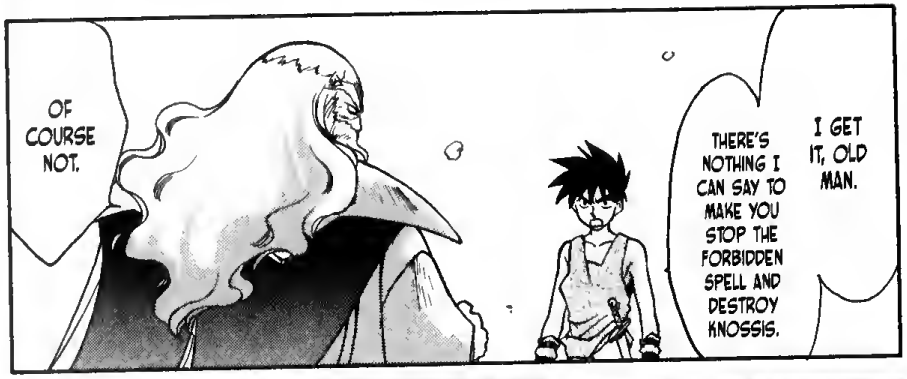
I'LL SEND ALL YOU BASTARDS TO THE HELL THAT SPAWNED YOU!!
SEE... THIS IS WHY SHE SCARES ME...

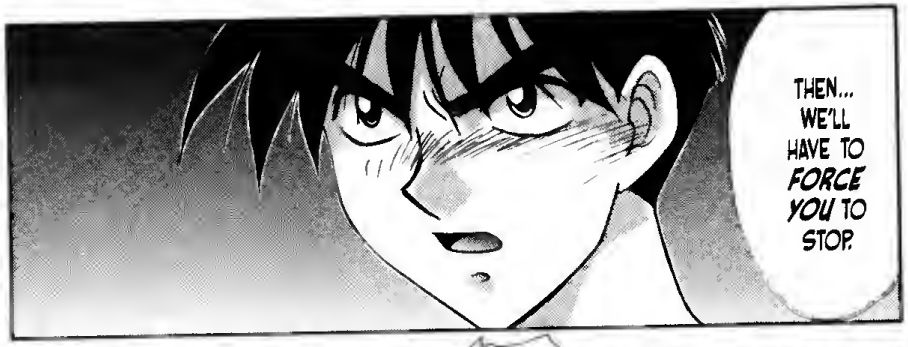
BAH! SHE'S BLUFFING!!
ATTACK!!
キョイィ…
HAHH!!
WHITE TIGER LIGHTNING RING!!

ガキン!


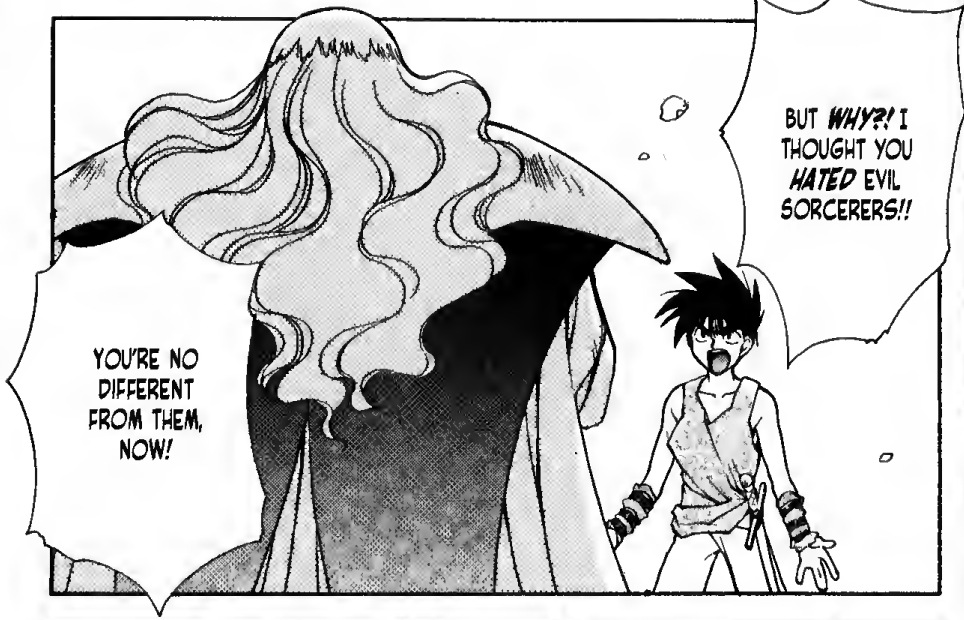
SO... YOU'RE JINGO ROW?
LAST I CHECKED, YES.
YOU KNEW, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU KNEW THAT MAKING KNOSSIS AND USING THE FORBIDDEN SPELL WOULD SINK CRATER ISLAND?!
CORRECT.

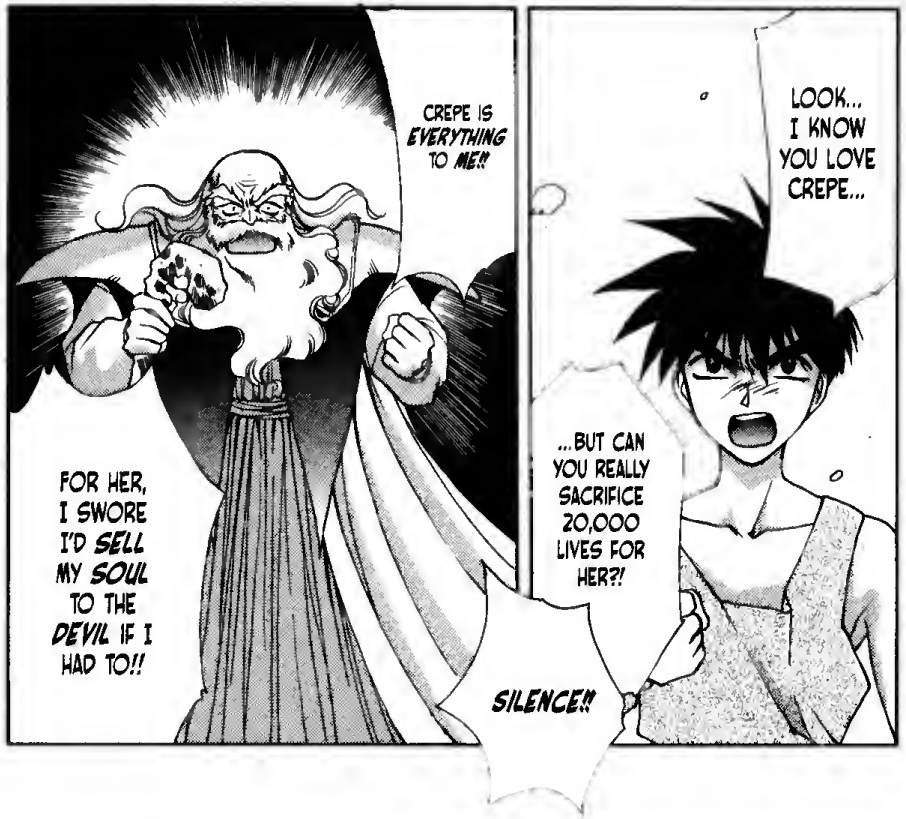
LESSON OVER.


I GET IT, OLD MAN.
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN SAY TO MAKE YOU STOP THE FORBIDDEN SPELL AND DESTROY KNOSSIS.
OF COURSE NOT.


THEN... WE'LL HAVE TO *FORCE YOU* TO STOP.

YOU'RE CARROT, AREN'T YOU?
LISTEN TO ME, SON... STOPPING THE FORBIDDEN SPELL WILL KILL HER!
IT WILL KILL THE INNOCENT GIRL THAT IS SO ATTACHED TO YOU!
SHE LOVES YOU SO, THOUGH SHE'S OBLIVIOUS TO THE FACT THAT YOU COULD KILL HER WITH A SIMPLE TOUCH!
SO TELL ME...*CAN* YOU *KILL HER?!*


BUT *WHY?!* I THOUGHT YOU *HATED* EVIL SORCERERS!!
YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT FROM THEM, NOW!


LOOK... I KNOW YOU LOVE CREPE...
...BUT CAN YOU REALLY SACRIFICE 20,000 LIVES FOR HER?!
SILENCE!!
CREPE IS *EVERYTHING* TO *ME!!*
FOR HER, I SWORE I'D *SELL MY SOUL* TO THE *DEVIL* IF I HAD TO!!

WHAT THE HELL?!

AS A HUMAN, I'D FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DO.
BUT... I'M NOT JUST A HUMAN...
IT'S... IMPOSSIBLE...
I AM A SORCERER HUNTER!!

yeek!!
DON'T DO IT!!

PHOENIX INFERNO!!
DID WE GET HIM?!
EVEN IF THE MAGICAL BEAST CAN STAND THE HEAT...
... THE HUMAN INSIDE CANNOT!!

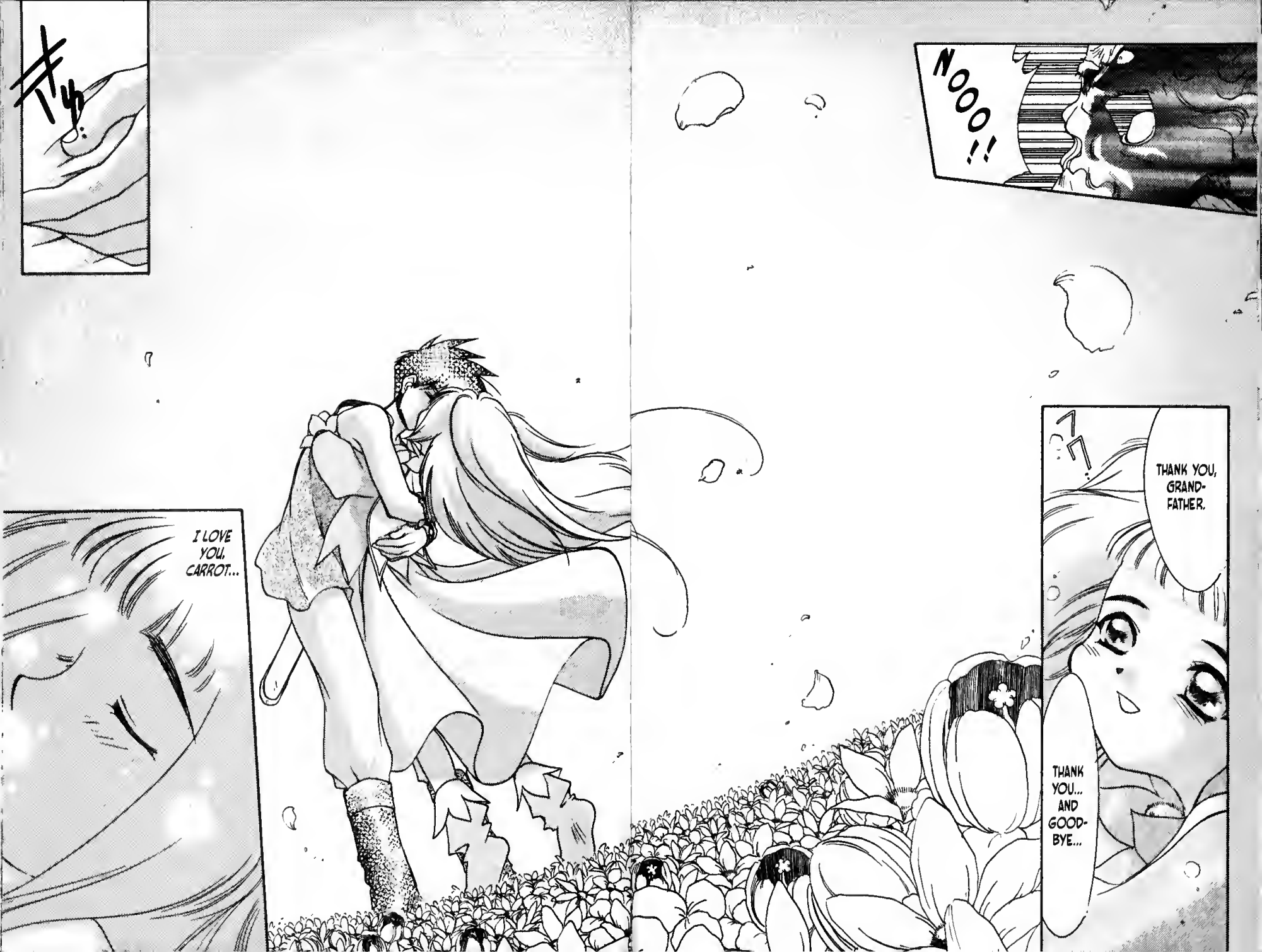
HUH?!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT FROM HERE!
I KNOW EVERYTHING!
STOP THIS, GRAND-FATHER!
THIS ENDS NOW!

YU-KI!
CREPE!
Y-YEAH...
CARROT, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I HATE THIS GRANDFATHER MORE THAN ANYTHING!!
THIS ISN'T THE GRANDFATHER THAT WAS NICE TO EVERYONE!
OH... CREPE... I...
B- BUT... I...
IT'S OKAY.
CREPE...?
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO BRING HIM TO HIS SENSES...
CARROT... PLEASE HOLD ME.
I SAW IT ALL THROUGH YOUR CRYSTAL BALL...
C- CREPE...! I-I...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...? I DID IT FOR YOU...!
NO! THIS ISN'T THE GRAND- FATHER THAT I LOVE!
I DON'T WANT TO LIVE IF IT MEANS KILLING ALL THOSE INNOCENT PEOPLE!
YOU'RE WRONG, GRAND- FATHER!

AT THE END, I'D LIKE TO BE HELD BY THE ONE I LOVE...
...AS I FADE AWAY...
I EVEN GOT TO FALL IN LOVE...
I MUSTN'T LOOK AWAY... I OWE HER THAT MUCH...I CAN AT LEAST WATCH HER FADE AWAY...
CREPE...
WE ARE LOVERS, AFTER ALL...!
THIS TIME, YOU KISS ME, CARROT.

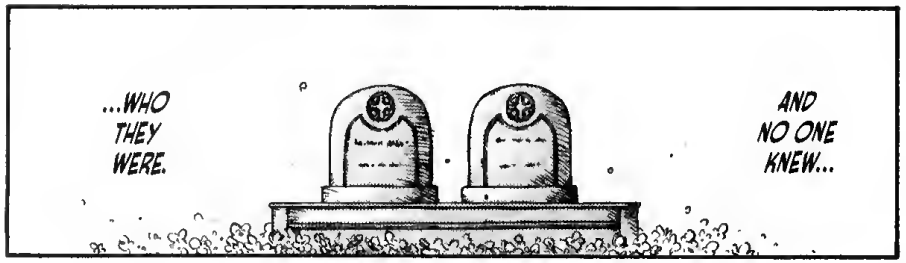
YOU HAVE THE POWER OF ARANJU, RIGHT CARROT?
YOU'LL ABSORB ALL OF ME IF I HUG YOU, CORRECT?
BUT... THAT'S WHAT I WANT...
CREPE...
I'VE HAD SUCH A WONDERFUL TIME...
IT'S BEEN SUCH A SHORT TIME... BUT IT WAS FUN...

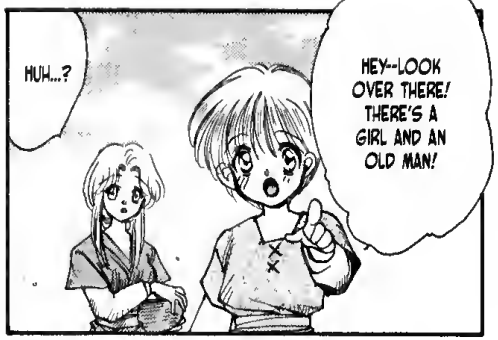

NOOO!!
THANK YOU, GRAND-FATHER.
THANK YOU... AND GOOD-BYE...
I LOVE YOU, CARROT...

THANK YOU, GRANDFATHER...
FORGIVE ME, CREPE... I...WAS WRONG...

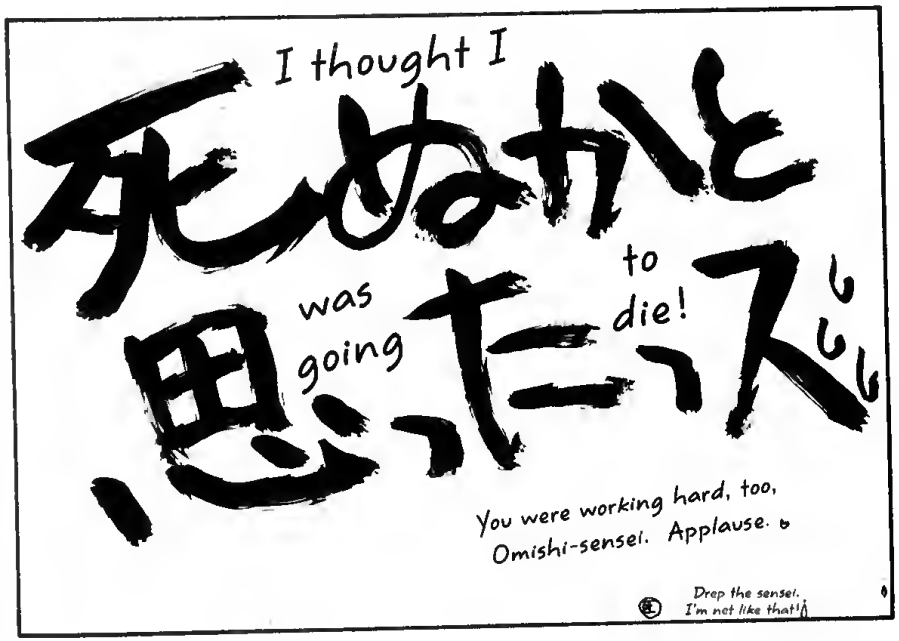
...BUT ADULTS COULD NEVER SEE THEM.

EVERY SO OFTEN, THE CHILDREN WOULD SEE AN OLD MAN AND A YOUNG GIRL PLAYING IN THE SUN BY THE GRAVESTONE...





Uh, lastly, I'd like to give you a word from Ken-chan about that nostalgic summer... As a representative of my assistants...



Ken-chan has been my assistant for the longest time. She does Tira and Chocolat's hair highlights! ♡ And as my assistant, she's a wonderful ally for finishing my comic, even when I give her ridiculous instructions. She helped the most during Magic Carpenter. I'm sorry I kept you cooped up for so long back then. About one month, I believe it was.
For everyone who's kept with us for so long, thank you very much. I hope that we meet again. ♡
6-24-1996 Ray Omishi

Magic Carpenter Special Thanks
Ken-chan
A-chan
Kobake-chan

Greetings

It's been a while since I've spoken to you. This is Omishi. I want to fill this space as much as possible, but I just haven't had the time recently!
Were you lonely that I couldn't write (tears)? This time I don't even have time to draw anything.
Umm...this time we mainly have Magic Carpenter, but I'll bring out the first complaint myself.
THE BONDAGE OUTFIT CHANGES IN THE MIDDLE! Hey!
Yes. I was out of it. Sorry! Well...could you call it charm and forgive me..? Yeek!☆

Memories

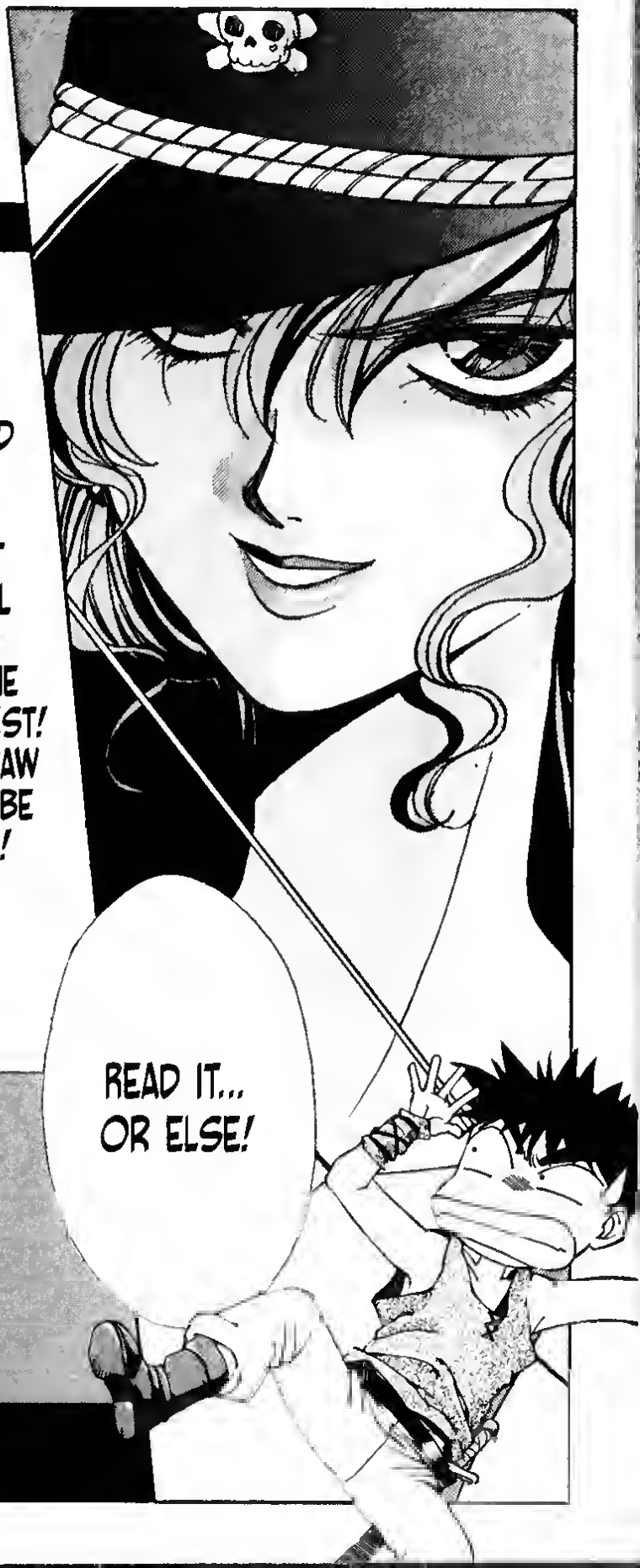
Thinking back, it was last year about this time that I was drawing Magic Carpenter. Back then, I didn't have a chance to rest. I was just drawing and drawing, but it never ended. And my editor was watching me the whole time! (I was really sick that time, Mr. Oneda.) I remember when I got the comic back for corrections. these summer days... Well...now it's nostalgic. Sigh.
Still, there were a lot of places that I would have like to have drawn more carefully and in more detail, so there are some regrets.

Others

What's this? In the middle of Magic Carpenter, I ran out of Round pen nibs and had to use Kabura nibs. Can you tell where? (Don't tell!) I'd hardly ever used Kabura nibs before, but I found they weren't all that hard to use.
Also, just a little bit, a real little bit, was done with a School-pen nib. Even I've forgotten where that is.
Well...I've been forgetting so much recently...it's not even funny. I can feel my brain cells are dying! I suppose that doesn't matter. Yes it does!

PREVIEW

GO WEST, YOUNG HUNTERS! THE GANG TRAVELS TO THE "OLD WEST" TOWN OF TAMALES TO PUNISH A SORCERESS LIVING THERE...BUT IN ORDER TO GET TO HER, THEY MUST FIRST DUEL AGAINST LENDOLL, A MAGICIAN WHO ALSO HAPPENS TO BE THE FASTEST GUNSLINGER IN THE WEST! IF THIS PISTOLERO CAN OUTDRAW THE SORCERER HUNTERS, IT'LL BE THE GREAT HAT TRICK OF ALL!



Kukukuku...

Bwah ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!!